

A N  
HISTORICAL  
A N D  
Geographical  
DESCRIPTION  
O F  
FRANCE,

Shewing its Government, Policy Strength, Riches and Revenues, both in its Prosperity, and during this War: Power of the Parliaments, State of the Nobility and Gentry; Ecclesiastical Government; The Increase of Popery; The Beginning, Progress, and Down-fall of the Reformation; The Poverty and Misery of the People, by the Persecution of the Protestants, the decay of Trade, and the present War; The different Revolutions of the several Governments of that Kingdom in general, and of each Province and Capital City in particular; The Description of its Climate, Rivers, Lakes, Mountains, Sea-Ports, and other Towns and Places; with their distances from each other.

By J. De LACROSE, Eccl. Ang. Presb.  
a Native of that Kingdom.

London: Printed for T. Salusbury, at the King's-Arms  
near St. Dunstons Church in Fleet-street. 1694.



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**L I C E N S' D.**

**Novembre 24.  
1693.**

**EDW. COOKE.**

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To His  
Most Excellent MAJESTY  
**WILLIAM III.**

By the Grace of God,  
King of Great Bri-  
tain, France and Ire-  
land, Defender of  
the Faith, &c.

May it please Your Majesty,

**T**HE Kingdom of France,  
tho' never so large and pow-  
erful, has formerly belong'd, either  
in part or in whole, to Your glorious  
Ancestors. The vast Duchies of  
Normandy and Guyenn, Maine,  
Touraine, Perche and Poictou;  
the



## The Epistle Dedicatory.

*the Counties of Ponthieu and Guis-*  
*nes, Calais, Boulogne, Ardres,*  
*and their dependencies, were the*  
*Patrimonial Estates of the Kings*  
*of England; besides many Counties*  
*and Lordships that Your Predeces-*  
*sors the Princes of Orange have*  
*enjoy'd in Dauphiné, Provence,*  
*Languedoc and Burgundy: So*  
*that, tho the pretended Salick Law,*  
*by which the Houses of Valois and*  
*Bourbon, endeavoured to main-*  
*tain their usurpation, should take*  
*place; Your Majesty has still the*  
*lawful claims of inheritance to the*  
*west part of the FRENCH TERRI-*  
*tories.*

*All the World knows that no*  
*such motives have engaged Your*  
*Majesty in this present War: Your*  
*generous Mind aims at nothing else,*  
*than to get restor'd to your Allies*  
*what an ambitious Prince has usur-*  
*ped from them. But as when So-*  
*lomon prefer'd Wisdom to Riches,*  
*God*



## The Epistle Dedicatory.

God gave him the latter too as an Overplus: So it may be that the just Distributer of Kingdoms, being pleased with that act of Justice of Your Majesty, will add to Your Dominions the vast Estates of Your Fore-Fathers, and let us see another Henry of England Crown'd in Paris. A great number of those who appear Your inveterate Enemies are most concern'd for Your Majesty, and truest to Your Interest. The Secular Clergy of France depriv'd of their Authority, the Nobility of their Power, the Gentry of their Estates, the Parliaments reduc'd to be only the unworthy Ministers of the Passions and Pleasures of a few arbitrary Courtiers; the Learned overloaden with Superstitions; the persecuted Protestants forc'd to a Worship, which they detest in their Heart; most or all the French Cities or Countries robb'd of their Liberties and Privileges,  
and



## The Epistle Dedicatory.

and even the whole Kingdom beggar'd and famish'd, sigh and long for such a Deliverer as Your Majesty, who is not afraid of the tempests of the Sea, and bids defiance to the Fire of Canons; who has receiv'd so many Wounds, and look'd so many Dangers in the Face for our Security. May Almighty God animate Your Subjects with so much Zeal, and bless Your Arms with so great a Success, that Your Majesty may afford an occasion to Your secret Friends to declare themselves, and procure them such a settled Welfare, and constant Liberty, as may have no other end, but the Consummation of the World: Which is the earnest Desire,

Of Your Majesty's

Most humble, most obedient

And most faithful Servant,

J. De LACROSE.



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# THE PREFACE.

**S**OME Readers may imagine that it is no hard matter to describe a Country so near, so full of Learned men and so stor'd with excellent Books as France is, especially for a Native of it, because of the many helps an Author may meet with. I have made use of all those I could come at, Books, Maps, Memoirs, Inquiries of living persons, besides what I knew of my own. But I was soon aware, that the Description of those who have Written before me, even in the middle of that Kingdom, are very imperfect. All the Journeys into France I have read, as *du Verdier*, *Sinceri Accii Itinerarium Gallie*, *Le Grand Tour, de France*, *les Delices de la France*, and the late *Voyages Historiques de l'Europe* observe neither order nor method, confounding not only the several Counties into which each great Government is subdivided, but even the great Governments themselves. As to Geographers *Comminges* and *Danville* are too old and confus'd. The Maps of *Sanson* the Father and the Son, are excellent, those

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## The P R E F A C E.

of *Du Val* next to them, and by comparing them together, as I have done, one may be pretty sure of the Longitude and Latitude, situation and distance of places. But neither of the *Sansons* has made a modern and particular Description of *France*, and that of *Du Val* is too short and not methodical enough. As to Antiquities. *André du Chesne* in his curious Inquiries concerning the Towns of *France* is full of Fables, and ought not to be follow'd but very cautiously, tho he is a Man of a vast reading and much to be commended for having published several Historians of the middle Age that have Written of the *French* affairs, and made use of them in his Antiquities of that Country and Monarchy. *Joseph Scaliger*, how Learned soever he may be in other things, does not come near *Du Chesne* in this, and proposes many bold conjectures, concerning the ancient names of the *French* Cities and Countries, for which he often gives no other authority but his bare saying. *Baudrand* is but a pitiful compiler of modern Books, who never look'd into ancient Authors. *Sanson* in his *Pharus Galliae Antiquae* is more accurate than the fore mentioned Writers, and has made many curious and useful discoveries. But the most exact of all in my Judgment is *Adrian de Valois* in his *Notitia Galliarum*, as to the *Latin* names of Places, for there is hardly any thing else in that huge *Folio*, besides some few hints of History to be gather'd here and there with great trouble.

I have perus'd three other modern Geographers which I must not forget, viz. *Robbe's Memoires Geographiques*, *Morery's Grand Dictionnaire*



## The P R E F A C E.

naire Historique and Geographique, with the supplement of Perayre, and De la Croix's Geographie Universelle. As to the first, he cannot commit many faults, for he has almost nothing besides French names; but as soon as he presumes to say something more, for instance to determine the extent of a Government or its Latitude and Longitude, one may very near be sure to find him in an error. As to Morery, it is pity he did not live long enough, or had not the conveniency to read ancient Authors. His want of Learning in Ecclesiastical History and Mysteries of State makes him too passionate, when he speaks of the Protestants, and leads him into many mistakes as to Latin names and other Antiquities. As to De la Croix, all his performance consists in having put an abridgment of Morery into Robbe's method, and a very unjudicious one too, for he leaves out what is most curious and essential in the Great Dictionary; and the rest he takes it word for word. unless it be to corrupt and

a bridge it again, but for the most part he is so faithful as to transcribe the very faults of the press, as p. 200. l. 29. Anvers for Auer. Whatever he adds of his own here and there, as the Latitude and Longitude and the distance of places is always false, for he never took the pains of looking into one of Sanson's or du Val's Maps. For instance, p. 201 he says that, Nogent-le-Roy is situated on the River Eure, betwixt Dreux and Chartres, which is true. Then he adds Dreux or Drocum is upon the Blaise, &c. The worst Map in the World might have shewn him that those three Towns are seated on the same River. It's true Morery has lead him



## The P R E F A C E.

him into that mistake, but what his pardonable in the compiler of a great Dictionary, who is tir'd out by the length and tediousness of the Work, and distracted by the Variety of matters, is not so in a Geographer. Besides that, there is a River call'd *Baise* in *Guienne*, but no River *Blaise* in all *France*.

A Vocabulary of this Authors Faults would make up a small Volume, and therefore I shall only add an instance or two more. P. 319 he calls twice after *Robbe*, *Briancon* a Bishoprick. Neither *Morey* nor any other Author that I know of mentions any such thing: For the *Brianconnois* were ever as they are still a dependency of the *Caturiges* and the Prelate of *Ambrun*. P. 320. He puts after *Robbe*, *Serres* in *Viennois*, that is in the Northern part of *Dauphiné*, tho it lies in *Gapencois* or in the South of that Province. This as true as what he says p. 17 that, at the beginning of this War, the French King put 700000 Men in Arms; and that he alone has more Religion, Merit, Glory, Revenues and Soldiers, than all the Crown'd Heads of Europe together, without excepting his dear Ally the Turk.

The former Description of *France* being so faulty, I let the Reader judg what trouble I have been at in chusing the best, and including what ever seem'd to me most essential in the Compass of this Book. It is divided into two parts, whereof the first is an introduction to the Second, a general survey of the whole Country, and an explication of several Offices and terms that can scarce be fully understood without it. Tho this part be very short, yet  
you



## The P R E F A C E.

you will find there several things concerning the *French Monarchy* and *Politicks*, the power of their *Parliaments*, the state of their *Nobility* and *Gentry*, the increase of *Popery*, the breaking up of the *Reformation*, the causes that retarded its progress, and have altogether eclips'd it in that Kingdom; all which is not easily to be met with any where-else. The second contains an *Historical* and *Geographical Description* of the twelve Great Governments, into which *France* uses to be divided, besides *Lorraine* and the County of *Burgundy*. There I treat of the different *Revolutions* of Each Government, of its ancient *Inhabitants*, of its *Gaulish* and *Latin* names and other *Antiquities*; of its borders, extent, subdivisions, *Air*, *Climate*, *Fertility*, *Rivers*, *Lakes*, *Mountains*, natural *Curiosities*, &c. I set down the distance of the *Capital Cities* from *Paris* or from each other, and of the most considerable *Towns* in each Government from their *Capital*, their *Latin* names, *Antiquities*, *Lords* and *Titles*, their *Civil* and *Ecclesiastical Government*, with the several *Changes* they have undergone, their most remarkable *Buildings*, *Trade*, *Inhabitants*, the *Great Men* they have produc'd, their *Soyl* and *Territory*, &c.

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A  
General and Particular  
DESCRIPTION  
OF  
FRANCE.

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PART I.

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**T**HE Method I shall observe in this Description, is, To give at first a General View of this ancient and large Kingdom ; To speak of its old and modern Bounds and Divisions ; Of its Soil, Inhabitants, Government, Policy, Magistrates, Religion, &c. And then to give a Particular Description of each of its Provinces.

B

CHAP.



# A Description of

## CHAP. I.

*Of the ancient and modern Bounds and Divisions of France ; Of her Mountains, Ports, Rivers and Forests.*

**F**RANCE has not changed her ancient Limits to the South, West and North ; seeing , as *Gallia* of old , it has to the West, the Ocean of *Aquitain* ; to the North, the *British* Ocean as far as *Calis* , by which Sea it is divided from *England* ; the *Mediterranean* Sea on the South, which is also called the *French* Sea, with the *Pyrenean* Mountains that part her from *Spain*.

As to her Limits on the *East* and *North-East*, they are very uncertain, especially in this time of War : Before the late Conquests, it was bounded by the County of *Burgundy*, *Elzas*, the Dukedom of *Lorrain* and *Barrois*, and part of the *Spanish* *Netherlands* ; viz. the Province of *Luxembourg*, *Hainault*, *Brabant*, and *Flanders*, But at present the *French* King is Master of all those Countries, except of a little part : So that his Kingdom has almost recover'd its ancient Limits on that side, viz. the *Rhine* and the Mouth of the *Meuse*.

Her Form is almost round, and in a manner oval, so that she is as broad as long, and may be of 25 days Journey in length, from *Brest* to *Strasbourg*, and of as many in breadth, from



from *Dunkerque* to *Perpignan*, that is 250 Leagues, which make about 1000 Leagues in circuit.

The ancient *Galli*, called *Celte*, transplanted themselves into *Asia*, where they gave their Name to a whole Country, called *Galatia*, *Gallo-Græcia*, or *Gallia Minor*, and now *Chiangare*, being part of *Natoly*, or *Less Asia*. Another Colony of the *Gallick Nation* having passed the *Alpes*, conquered a good part of *Italy*, which made the *Romans* to distinguish them into *Cisalpins* and *Transalpins*. However, the Country on this side the *Alpes* retained the ancient Name of *Gallia*; and falling afterwards under the Power of the *Romans*, was divided by *Augustus* into four Parts, *viz.* *Gallia Narbonensis*, called also *Gallia Braccata*, because of the *Braccæ*, a kind of broad long Coats the Inhabitants wore. The other Parts were, the *Celtick Gallia*, or that of *Lyons*; the *Belgick*, and the *Aquitanick*, which had all three the common Surname of *Gallia Comata*, because the People of those Provinces suffered their hair to grow long.

*Aquitain* at *Julius Cæsar's* time was comprehended between the River *Garunn*, the Sea, and the *Pyrenean Mountains*; but was afterwards extended by *Augustus* as far as the River *Loire* on the North, and the Mountains of the *Cevennes* on the East, and subdivided into first, second and third *Aquitain*. Its ancient Inhabitants had several



different Names, which we shall mention in the particular Description of that part of *France*. It suffices at present to observe, that it is now wholly in the *French King's* hands, but heretofore belong'd for the most part to the *English*.

The *Celtick Gallia*, or that of *Lyons*, was included between the Ocean on the West and North-West, the *Belgick* on the North-East and East, *Aquitain* and the Province of *Narbonne* on the South. It was divided into first, second, third, fourth and fifth; in which Division, 'tis worthy our Notice, that a good part of the 2d and 3d was either the ancient Patrimony of our *English Kings*, as *Normandy*; or fell to them by Marriage and Inheritance, as *Le Maine*, *Anjou*, and *Touraine*. As to the fifth *Lugdunensis*, call'd also *Provincia Sequanorum*, before the last Peace of *Nimeguen* the *French King* possessed nothing in it: but the *Spaniards* having yielded him the County of *Burgundy*, and he being Master of *Savoy*, *Newchastel*, *Elzas* and *Singow*, the Republick of the *Suitzers*, which lays inclosed in his Dominions, must necessarily depend upon him.

The *Narbonensis* had *Aquitain* on the West, the *Celtick* on the North, the *Alpes* on the East, the *Mediterranean Sea* and the *Pyrenean Mountains* on the South. It was divided into first, second and third; but afterwards extended farther on the East, beyond the

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the *Alpes* & to the *Appennin* Mountains : then it was called *Viennensis*, and subdivided into first, second, third, fourth and fifth. The *French* having conquered during this present War the Dukedom of *Savoy*, and the County of *Nice*, are now Masters of all that large Country ; except the County *Venaissin*, which they have restored to the Pope, the Principality of *Piedmont*, and the Land of *Valais*, called by the Ancients *Gallia Subalpina*, possessed by the Warlike Duke of *Savoy*.

The *Belgick*, divided into first and second, was of a vast extent, comprehending not only the Seventeen Provinces of the *Low Countries*, except *Frieze*, *Groeningen* and *Overysse*, but also *Picardy*, *Champaign*, part of the *Ile of France*, *Lorrain*, *Elzas*, the Bishoprick of *Liege*, the four Electorates along the *Rhine*, and the Dukedoms of *Cleves* and *Fuliers*. The *French*, who in the former Reigns possessed but a small part of the *Belgick*, have almost swallow'd up all that Country, there remaining nothing entire, but the Dukedoms of *Cleves* and *Fuliers*, and the Dominions of the *States-General* ; for the Bishoprick of *Liege* and the four Electorates are either dismembred, or lie open before them.

The Division of *France*, as to the Civil Government, may be made into certain Provinces : The twelve Ancient, whose Deputies had their Seat in the general Assemblies of the Kingdom, are, 1. *Picardy*. 2. *Normandy*.



3. *The Isle of France.* 4. *Champaign.* These four lie Northward of France. 5. *Britanny.* 6. *Orleanois.* 7. *The Dutchy of Burgundy.* 8. *Lyonnois.* are scituated on each side of the *Loire.* 9. *Guienne.* 10. *Languedock.* 11. *Dauphiné.* 12. *Provence.* in the Southern Parts of the Kingdom. To these have been added, 1. *The Government of Navar and Bearn.* 2. *Of Elzas.* 3. *Of the three Bishopricks of Metz, Toul and Verdun.* 4. *Of Lorrain.* 5. *Of the County of Roussillon.* 6. *Of the Province of Pignerol.* 7. *Of the French Plantations in America.*

In reference to the Courts of Justice, France is divided into ten Parliaments, to which the *Seneschalships* or *Bailiwicks* do answer.

The Names of those ten Parliaments are, *Paris*; *Toulouse*, for *Languedock* and part of *Guienne*; *Dijon*, for the *Dutchy of Burgundy* and *Bresse*; *Roan*, for *Normandy*; *Bordeaux*, for *Guienne*; *Rennes*, and lately *Vannes*, for *Britanny*; *Grenoble*, for *Dauphiné*; *Aix*, for *Provence*; *Pau*, for *Bearn* and *Navar*; *Mets*, for the *Country of Messin* and *Lorrain*, which extends its Jurisdiction over all the conquer'd *Netherlands*.

There are Sovereign Courts of Justice at *Brisach*, *Arras*, *Tournay*, *Perpignan* and *Pignerol*; they depend, for the most Part, on the Government of *Picardy*; but the *Dutchy of Luxemburg* is annexed to that of *Lorrain*; however, bares not the Title  
of



of Parliament. The Parliament for the County of Burgundy is at *Bezançon*, whither the Spaniards transferr'd it from *Dole*, after that Province had been restored to them by the Treaty of *Aix la Chappelle*, An. 1668.

There are sixteen Archbishopricks in France, nine of which pretend to the Right of Primacy; the seven others are, *Paris*, *Tours*, *Auch*, *Alby*, *Tolouze*, *Ambrun*, and *Aix*; the Primates are, *Sens*, *Lyons*, *Bourges*, *Narbonne*, *Roan*, *Bordeaux*, *Wienne*, *Arles*, and *Rheims*. The New Conquests have since added two Archbishopricks, viz. *Cambray* and *Bezançon*.

The *Pyrenean* Mountains do not so much belong to France, which they do part from Spain, as the *Cevennes*, which are in the heart of the Country, and have been known to the ancient Greeks and Latins under the Name of *Kiμύσος*, and *Gebenua*, or *Cebenna*. They reach along *Low Languedock* to *Auvergne*, where they are extremely high.

France has also her Promontories upon the Coast of her Seas, as well Ocean as Mediterranean. On the West-side looking towards *Britanny*, and the North over-against *Kent*, are those of the Ocean Sea; That of *Talmond*, or *Talon du monde*, is toward the South in the same Sea, with that of *Buts*, which has divers Names, and some others. Upon the Medi-



terranean Sea are the Cape of *St. Sigo*, which is on the Coast of *Provence*, the Cape of *Sete*, on the Coast of *Agde* in *Languedock*. She has but two Gulfs, the *Aquitannick* or *Tarbellick*, on the Ocean toward the West; and the great Gulf, called by the Ancients *Sinus Gallicus*, in the Mediterranean Sea.

*France* wants no good Ports, whether in the Ocean or Mediterranean Sea. In the Ocean, on the Coast of *Britanny*, are, *Brest*, *Conquest*, *Blavet*; and *Roche*ll on the Coast of *Poitou*. In the Mediterranean *Marseille* and *Toulon*, on the Coast of *Provence*, good and renowned Havens, by the Gallies which the French King keeps there. That on the Coast of *Agde* is also considerable.

The Rivers of *France* are many, very beautiful, and of long Course. The Chiefest are, the *Seine*, the *Loire*, the *Garonne*, and the *Rhosne*. The *Garonne* springs from the *Pyreneans*, and has always been the separation of the *Aquitains* from the *Celtae*, receives the *Dourdogne*, the *Tart* and *Loth*, and is lost in the Ocean. The *Rhosne* comes from the *Alpes*, crosses the Country of *Valais*, then the Lake of *Geneva*, through which it runs without mixing its Waters with it, receives the *Saone* at *Lyons*, the *Isere* that runs at *Grenoble*, the *Droume* and the *Durance*, a dangerous River, and which has no certain wading; and lastly, empties it self into the Mediterranean Sea at the

Three



*Three Maries*, within three Leagues of *Arles*, by six Channels. The *Seine*, which has its Original in *Burgundy*, in the Woods of the Abbey of *St. Seine*, runs by *Paris*, *Roan*, *Honfleur* and *Harfleur*, and disgorgees it self into the Sea at *Havre de Grace*, with a delicate Channel, where it ebbs and flows. It receives, amongst other Rivers, the *Marn*, and the *Oyse*, which crosseth *Picardy*, and under *Pont Oyse*, towards *Poissy*, mixes with the *Seine*. The *Isle of France* is inclosed by the *Seine* to the East and South, and by the *Oyse* to the West. The *Loire* springs forth in *Vivarez*, a small Country of *Languedock*, passes by *Velay*, comes into *Forest*, to *Nevers*, *Orleans*, *Blox*, *Amboise*, *Tours*, *Saumur*, and disburthens it self in the Sea near *Nantes* in *Britanny*, with a Channel of four Leagues breadth. It is the largest River of *France*, as the *Rhosne* is the most rapid. It receives the River of *Allier*, which cometh out of *Gevaudan* in *Languedock*, and several others.

*Franca* abounds in lofty and pleasant Forests, that are not like those of *Germany*, *Poland*, and *Transilvania*, which by reason of their greatness and thickness are not so commodious for Hunting. That of *Orleance* is the biggest and broadest. Besides those of *Montargis*, there are a great many in the Country of *Maine*, in *Lower Britanny*, in *Poitou*,



*Poitou*, in *Berry*, in the *Country of Angiers*, in *Boulonois*, *Vernandois*, *Picardy*, in *Angoumois*, where the *Forest of Brancome* is of great extent. The *Provinces of Burgundy*, *Dauphiné*, *Languedock*, *Guyenne*, and chiefly *Roitergue* and *Quercy*, abound also with great *Woods*.

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## CHAP. II.

*Of the Air and Soil of France, and its various Productions.*

**F**RANCE every where enjoyeth a very wholsom and temperate Air, whence it proceeds that the *Plague* and contagious *Diseases* are not so frequent and dangerous there as in other *Countries*.

She is praised for her *Fertility* from all times, not only in her fair and spacious *Plains*, and in her *Vallies*, but also in her *Mountains*, which are *Cultivated* and bring forth *Corn* in such abundance; that besides the *Provision* of her *Inhabitants*, *Spain* is supplied with it from *Burgundy* and *Languedoc*. To these *Provinces* ought to be added those of *Normandy*, *Beauvise*, *Poitou*, *Xaintonge*, *Picardy*, which are also very plentiful in *Corn*. All sorts of *Wines* grow in *France*, and such as are *Excellent* too: *Britany*, *Normandy*



*Champagne*, and *Picardy*, by reason of the cold Air produce none; but all the other Provinces do abound with it. Those of *Beauvais* grow especially about *Orleans*, and *Toury*: *Anjou* has her White-Wines, which are in a particular Esteem; Those of *Burgundy* are sold off at *Baulne*, *Sens*, and *Auxerre*, whereof great Quantities are brought to *Paris*. *Guyenne* is very well provided with Wines, but those of *Grave* at *Bordeaux*, those of *Gaillac* and *Rabestens*, are most esteemed; and by the *Garonne*, *Charante*, and *Loire*, are Transported to *England*, *Flanders*, and *Germany*. The Muscadine Wines of *Frontignan*, and other Places near *Montpellier* in *Languedoc*, are carried to *Paris*, and Foreign Nations.

The Salt-Pits make the Third Wealth of that Kingdom, in which they are both good and plentiful. The King draws vast Revenues out of them, for the Inhabitants of every Province are furnished therewith at a very high Rate; and they are exported to Foreign Nations, as the *Switzers*, *Dutch*, *English*, and other Northern People. The Salt Pits of *Languedoc* at *Pecais* are the excellentest of all: There are some in *Provence*, *Poitou*, *Xaintonge*, *Brouage*, whither the *Dutch* come to fetch them.

The Hemp and Linnen of *Lower Brittany*, *Calis*, *Berry*, *Quercy*, *Rouergue*, and other Places, bring likewise a great Trade, and a power of Money into *France*: Hereof

are



are made Cables and Sails for Shipping, with a prodigious quantity of Cloath, which is carried very far. There are but some of her Provinces that produce Oyls, whose Air is the hottest and sweetest; Such as are *Provence* and *Languedoc*: Of these is a great Trade, not only in the very Kingdom, but even amongst Strangers. Fine Wool abounds in several Places of the Kingdom, especially in *Berry*, *Soloigne*, *Normandy*, and *Languedoc*; in all which Provinces very good and fine Cloaths are Woven, with Serges that are carried all over the Kingdom; and into *Spain*, *Italy*, *Piedmont*, and others Nations. She abounds in all manner of Fruit: In *Normandy*, *Britany*, and *Picardy*, is a huge quantity of Apples, of which they make Cyder, that supplies the want of Wine. Pears and other Winter-Fruit are better in these Provinces, and the *Isle of France*, where the Air is thickest, than in those that are more to the South; Which on the other hand are plentiful in choice Raisins, Figs, Granads, Musk-Mellons, Apricots, Peaches, Nectarins, Almonds, and Nutts. Chesnuts are in the most Mountainous Countries; such as are *Dauphiné*, the *Cevennes*, *Languedoc*, *Auvergne*, the Country of *Limoges*, and *Perigord*. Wood is found there in some Places, which is Exported into several Foreign Countries to Dye in Blue. Several of her Provinces do bear Saffron. Silk-  
Worms



Worms are fed in *Languedoc*, *Provence*, *Dauphiné*, at *Tours*, at *Caen* in *Normandy*; and for this purpose a great number of Mulberry-Trees are kept. She is not lacking in good Pastures, both in the even and hilly Soil, to feed Cattle; whence comes abundance of Meat, as also Milk, Butter and Cheese: Capons, Pullers, and all manner of Fowl are here in Store; And Turkey-Cocks and Hens are fed by Flocks; Hares, Conies, Partridges, and Thrushes do swarm. There is Rice to be seen in *Provence*, Pulse of all sorts, Flowers, Herbs, and Simples; Rosemary, Juniper, Myrtle-Trees, Sage, and all other Plants are to be found in it. Box grows to a great thickness in *Normandy*, *Languedoc*, and other Places, wherewith are made several small Moveables for Service, which Strangers make use of. Stones do grow in the Quarries; And here are very fine Slates, especially in *Anjou*; and Marbles in *Foix*, and in some Places of *Languedoc*. All big Beasts for Game, as Fallow Deers, Chamois, Stags, Wild-Goats, are to be found in her Forrests; besides several good Races of Horses, of *Burgundy*, *Normandy*, *Britany*, *Auvergne*, *Poitou*, the Country of *Limoges*, *Gascony*, *Foix*, and *Languedoc*; yet they are not so strong as those of *Germany*, whence they are brought to draw Carts and Coaches. *Spain* has Mules from *Auvergne* and *Gevaudan*.

The



The Corn and Wines of *France*, with the Salt-Houses, and other Wares, are the most allured Mines she has; yet those of Gold and Silver are not wanting, though they are not wrought at. And it is not to be doubted but that in the Pyreneans, and other Mountains of *Auvergne*, *Rouergue*, *Gevaudan*, *Languedoc*, and in the *Cevennes*, may be found Veins of Gold and Silver; as Germans who have visited and found them out have Related. There are Mines of Iron in *Auvergne* and *Britany*, of Coals, Lead, Pewter, Azur, Copperas, &c. in other Places. Add to these the Mineral Waters, as those of *Pougues*, *Mayne*, *Bourbon*, *Vals*, and the Baths of Hot Waters at *Viehy*, *Barlarnie*, *Bagneux*, *Encausse*, &c.

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## C H A P. III.

*Of the Inhabitants of France , and of  
their Language.*

**T**HE French are Endowed with more Virtues than Vices, by the Confession even of Strangers; who praise them for their Charity, hospitality, Courtesie, Valour, and Bravery; and for their being fit, and as 'twere, born to all that they are minded to Undertake in Learning, War, or Mechanics; wherein they very Expeditionously imitate whatever they see perform'd by Strangers. They are very cleanly in their Diet and Apparel, and very apt in the one or the other to go beyond their Means, Quality, and Birth; which, by comparing them to Spaniards, Italians, and other Nations, has been taken notice of. Their Cloathing, as to the Making, is never certain, no more as to the Mode then as to the Stuff, wherein continually they change, at least from year to year.

The Men here are Comelier and Stronger, and of a finer size than Spaniards and Italians, but not then the Germans, Dutch, or English. As to the Women, they are Handsomer in some Provinces than others; For in *Normandy, Picardy,* and on this side the *Loire,* they are commonly more agreeable than



than in the ancient *Aquitain*; that is, in *Auvergne*, *Perigord*, the Country of *Limoges*, *Gascony*, and *Upper Languedoc*. The other part of *Guienne*, especially at *Bordeaux*, part of *Dauphiné*, *Lower Languedoc*, and *Provence*, shew more pleasing Faces, and even exquisite Beauties: As we have said that the French Man renders himself fit for every Thing, he is chiefly so in Arms and War-fare: He likewise gives himself over to Study, Eloquence, to all Arts, and to Merchandize: He carries freely his Trade to Foreign Nations, and there Manures the Land, and knows not to be Lazy: He is very Industrious, and Works merrily, though he is found fault with for not being Patient and willing to endure in War. The French Nobility are above all most rare Horsemen, and have a particular Care of their Honour, even to excess: witness, the damnable custom of Duels, which the Edicts of the present Prince have not yet been able totally to suppress. The People of *France* are generally Meek and Good every where, except in some few places, where they are a little too Blunt and Rustick. The Vulgar bears an extream Respect to great Persons, whether they be of the Nobility, Officers of Justice, or of the Revenues. Ecclesiasticks, and other Men of Long Gown, are especially Honoured; And there is hardly any Nation in the World that has so many Officers of all sorts

as



as the Kingdom of *France*. The Merchant, nay, and the very Tradesman, if at any time he becomes Wealthy, pushes his Children to it: And into several Parliaments of *France*, and other Courts of Justice, the Nobility Sues for Offices too; whence comes that infinite number of literate Men, though their Reward be but small, and that all Offices be Sold; which is not usual in other States of *Europe*. Thence also proceeds a swarm of Advocates, Solicitors, Registers, Notaries, and other Men of Business, whose number has been extraordinarily increas'd by the late Edicts of *Lewis XIV*, and his Creation for Money of an incredible number of new Officers, which must needs impoverish the Kingdom, and bring it at last to an utter Ruin. For either these new Offices will be suppress'd in time of Peace, and consequently a great many Families will be Ruin'd that have bestow'd their ready Money, and some their Estates upon these Employments: Or, if they be continued, the common People will be oppress'd by the multitude of Officers, and the number of Merchants, Trades, and Husbandmen mightily diminish'd.

Another great Abuse that may prove at last the Ruin of *France*, is the extraordinary increase of the Gentry; For whereas in *England*, younger Brothers even of the greatest Noblemen make no difficulty of be-



becoming Merchants, nay and Tradesmen too, if they have no inclination to Learning: The youngest Son of a simple Gentleman in *France* would account it a great Dishonour to his Birth to do any thing but to wear a Gown, or a Sword; which makes that the French Gentry, who is almost as numerous as the other Inhabitants, can hardly subsist in time of Peace.

Besides the Faults which the French have common, with other Nations, as to be too much given to Play, to Women, Debauchery, Blasphemies, and Cursings, it cannot be deny'd but that they are Hasty and Cholerick; However you will find amongst 'em very few instances of those secret and awful Revenges that are so often practis'd by some of their Neighbours. As to their Levity, we may in their behalf make use of *Charles* the Fifth's saying, *That they are Wise without making any shew of it*: For though they are not so Crafty as the Italians, nor so Vain and Proud as the Spaniards, yet do they not want Policy and Cunning. Finally the French are very Religious, and have always feared their Gods; and whatever Religion they Embraced, they firmly stick'd to it. The frequent Wars which they have Undertaken or Suffered upon this account, shew the Truth of this Assertion. They are very Respectful to Ladies, and give them large Liberty; neither do they shut them  
up



up as the Italians and Spaniards do; whence it comes that they are cordially Beloved and served by their Wives; and that the Visits and Practises of young Women end generally in a happy Wedlock.

The French Tongue for the most part is a Branch of the Latin: The Romans becoming Masters of the Country, and introducing their Laws in it, changed the Speech of the Natural Inhabitants, or by little and little made them loose it. If the German Tongue had been there spoken before, or the British, they were at last totally routed, and a kind of corrupted Latin took their place. Now a days each Province has its peculiar manner of Speaking and Dialect; However there is still a difference of Speech betwixt the Provinces on this side the *Loire*, and those beyond it: The first Speak French, and the last Gascon, taking this Word as usually taken at *Paris*; for those of *Languedoc* and *Dauphiné*, *Provence*, and *Guyenne*, the Latin Tongue having left deeper Footsteps of its Residence in those four Provinces than among the other French, whose Language is purer, especially about *Blois*, *Orleance*, and *Paris*.



## C H A P. IV.

*Of the Riches, Strength, and Government of France.*

**T**HE Kingdom of *France* is Rich and Potent by its Situation, by the great numbers of its Cities and Inhabitants, and by its Wares of all Sorts, of which there is a great Trade. As to the Riches, the King takes what he pleases in his Taxes, Excise upon Salt, Impositions upon Merchandises that go out and are brought into *France*, besides his Patrimony, whereupon the Kings have lived during a long time. The Revenues of the Kingdom before the Dutch War of 1672, were deem'd to amount to 170000000 Livres, that is, about £5000000 Sterling, but have ever since still diminish'd, partly by the continual Taxes that impoverish the People, and partly by the stop which the Wars have put to Trade; but much more by the Persecution of the Protestants, which has made the price of the Lands considerably fall, disturb'd the Traffick of the Realm, and depriv'd it of great Sums of ready Money, which the French Refugees have brought over with 'em into Foreign Countries.

The French Monarchy strove many Ages before it came to that high Point of Grandeur to which it has attained of late. The  
Weakness



Weakness of Charlemaign's Successors, and the Incurfions of the Normans, had reduced it to fo narrow Limits, that the French King was hardly Sovereign in Paris. The Governors of the feveral Counties and Provinces taking hold of the occafion, made their Charges Hereditary; and foon after render'd themfelves Lords of the Countries they Govern'd: So that *France* at that time was rather an *Aristocracy*, or a Confederacy of feveral Petty-Princes under the French King their Head, as *Germany* now is under the Emperor, then a Monarchy properly fo call'd. But the Victories which *Charles VII* got over the Englifh in the Fifteenth Age, during the Wars of the Houfes of *York* and *Lancaster*, gave him means to Unite to his Crown the large Provinces of *Guyenne* and *Normandy*; together with *Poitou*, *le Maine*, and *Tourain*. *Lewis XI*. his Son and Succeffor, after the Death of *Charles the Rth*, laft Duke of *Burgundy*, in 1477, ufurp'd upon his Sole Heirefs *Mary*, Spoufe of *Maximilian* of *Austria*, the Dutchy of *Burgundy* and fome part of *Picardy*. *Charles VIII*. and *Lewis XII*. by their Marriage with *Ann* Daughter to *Francis II*. late Duke of *Britany*, United that Dutchy to their Crown. Anno 1514; Then it was that *France* began to look as a mighty Kingdom: So that *Francis I*. King of *France*, was a fit Match even for *Charles V*. Emperor and King of *Spain*,



*Spain, Naples, and Sicily, Duke of Milan, and Lord of all the Low Countries, The extent of the French Kings Jurisdiction was yet increas'd by the Accession of Bearn or Lower Navarre, of which Henry IV. was in Possession when he came to that Crown; And by his Acquisition of the Province of Bresse, with the Lands of Bugey, Valromey, and the Bailwick of Gex, which he Exchanged with Charles Emanuel Duke of Savoy, for some Pretensions on the Marquisate of Salusses in 1601. Lewis XIII. his Son Divested the Duke of Lorraine of his Dutchy; the Emperor and the King of Spain of a good part of Elzas and the Netherlands; and this present King has not only Conquer'd the County of Burgundy, and the rest of Elzas, but push'd so far his Conquests in the Low Countries, that what now remains in the Hands of the King of Spain is not able to withstand him any long time.*

The Authority of the French Monarchs grew stronger and more absolute within their Kingdom, as the Bounds of it were extended without; at least in this latter Age. For in former times, even that mighty Emperor Charlemaign would do nothing without the Advice of his Barons; no, not so much as establish and endow a Bishoprick: and by their means it was, that his Son, Lewis the Pious, was re-inthron'd. The Power of the French Lords lasted not only under the Second



cond Race, but three or four Ages too under the Third. And as these petty Princes were extinguished, their Authority was transferr'd to the States of the several Provinces, under whose hands it remained, till the Civil Wars, under the pretence of Religion, gave a mighty check to it; and the shrewd Policy of the Cardinals *Richelieu* and *Mazarine* made it altogether arbitrary.

Now the French Kings pretend that they are Emperors in *France*, as *Bodin* and *du Tillet* have endeavoured to prove; That their Authority is Absolute and Sovereign, and that as to the Temporal they have no other Superior than God alone, upon whom their Crown immediately depends, it not being in the Power of the Prelates of their Kingdom either to excommunicate them, or to publish them to be such. By reason of their Consecration, they are look'd upon to be of the Body of several Cathedral Churches in *France*, where they hold the Prebends. The nominating to Bishopricks, Abbeyes, &c. belongs to them, even by the Pope's Consent, and the *Concordat* made betwixt *Francis I.* and *Leo X.* They alone can make Laws in their Kingdom, grant Favors and Pardons, naturalize Strangers, and legitimate Bastards. They build Colleges, Universities, Courts and Companies of Justice, create Offices, and provide for the same.



The Males only, by Salique Law, which the French call the Fundamental of the State, have Right to Succession, and the Crown always is devolved to the next Heir, that is, to the eldest Son of the King, and to the Issues of the eldest Infinitely. This First-born, during his Father's Life, is commonly called the *Dauphin*, by the Donative of *Humbert*, last *Dauphin* of *Viennois*, of his Lands of *Dauphiné*, to *Philip* of *Valois*, King of *France*, upon condition, that his eldest Son should be call'd *Dauphin*, and bear quarterly the Arms of *France*, with those of *Viennois*. It was in the year 1343. *Philip* at the intreaty of *John* his Son, who reigned after him, gave the Land to his Grandson, who reigned under the Name of *Charles*, called *the Wise*, and was the first Son of *France* who bore the Title of *Dauphin*.

The Arms of *France* are, *Three Flowers de Luce Or, in a Field Azure*. King *Charles VI.* reduced them to Three, his Predecessors having had them without number, contrary to the Custom even of the first Kings.

The Consecration of the Kings is solemnly performed at *Rheims*, where they are anointed with Oyl of the Holy Ampoule, kept religiously in the Abbey-Church of *St. Remigius*, whence it is carried under a Canopy by four Knights of the Holy Ampoule, created by *Clovis IV.* The Royal Ornaments are kept at *St. Denis*, from King  
St. Lewis's



*St. Lewis's* time. The twelve Peers of *France* assist at the Consecration; six whereof are Ecclesiastical, to wit, the Archbishop and Duke of *Rheims*, who consecrates the King; the Bishop and Duke of *Laon*, the Bishop and Duke of *Langres*, the Bishop and Earl of *Beauvais*, the Bishop and Earl of *Chaalons*, the Bishop and Earl of *Noyon*. The Six Lay Peers were formerly, the Duke of *Burgundy*, the Duke of *Normandy*, the Duke of *Guyenne*, the Earl of *Tolouse*, the Earl of *Flanders*, and the Earl of *Champagne*: but these Peers subsisting no more, they are represented by as many French Princes or Lords.

The King's Guards are composed of two strange Nations, viz. *Scots* and *Switzers*, and of his *French* Subjects. The *Scotch* Guard is the first Company of the King's *Guard du Corps*. However, it ought to be observed, that this Name is but a remainder of the ancient Alliance between the *Scotch* and the *French*: for since the Reformation, and the Union of *England* and *Scotland*, there has hardly been a *Scotch* Man among these pretended *Scotch* Guards. However, as this Company is the ancientest, so it enjoys the greatest Privileges, for their Captain precedes the three others, and begins always to serve the first Quarter of the Year; and when the *Guard du Corps* are quartered, they chuse the first Lodging. This Company was at first composed of 100 Gentlemen, or cho-



sen Soldiers; 24 of whom have yet a good Stipend, are Privileged, and have at their Head the first Man at Arms of *France*, who makes the 25th; and these are the Archers of the *Guard du Corps*, who wear *Hoquetons*, or white Cassocks, covered with gilt Silver-Shells, whence they are commonly called *Hoquetons*.

The three *French Companies* have been instituted by three several Kings, and wear upon their Arms and Cassocks the Livery, Colours and Devices of the Reigning Kings. Those that are called *Exempts of the Guards*, precede the other Archers; they wear neither *Hoquetons* nor Cassocks, and command the Guards in the absence of their Officers: They carry a Stick, as a Mark of their Power and Employment.

The hundred *Switzers* wear the King's Livery, with a Halbert, and are cloathed after their own Country fashion. These four Companies have their Captains, who are all qualified Lords. And besides these, the King has a Regiment of *Switzers*, and another Regiment of *French Guards*, with all their Officers. These make as 'twere a small compleat Army, kept ordinarily with a Company of Musqueteers, or Horse-Guards, whom King *Lewis XIII.* had instituted, and whose Head he was.

During the Minority of the Kings, which ends so soon as they are 14 years old, a Regent



gent or Protector was provided by the General States of the Kingdom, or by the Court of Parliament of *Paris*. He was commonly the King's nearest Kinsman, or the Queen his Mother, as Queen *Catherine of Medicis* was to King *Charles IX.* Queen *Mary of Medicis* to King *Lewis XIII.* But since the Monarchy is become Absolute, the Will of the deceased King has only been regarded. And *Ann of Austria*, Mother to K. *Lewis XIV.* now Reigning, carried the Regency against the Princes of the Blood, who disputed it with her, though they had the Parliament of *Paris* on their side, whence ensued a bloody War, in which the Queen and Cardinal *Mazarine* got the better of the Princes. Patents, Edicts and Arrests are expedited under the Name of the King, with this Title, *By the King, and Queen-Regent.*

The Queens of *France* have often been Crowned, whereof History gives several Examples. They were anointed with another Chrism than that of the Holy Ampoule. Queen *Mary of Medicis* was Consecrated and Crowned at *St. Denis* in the year 1610. on the 13th of *May*, by Cardinal *de Joyeuse*. In their Widowhood they have been formerly called *White Queens*, but that has not been used for some Ages.

There is no sharing in the Royal House and Succession, since the Third Stock of the Kings of *France*; so that second Brothers



must be contented with a Patrimony in Land, bearing the Title of Dutchy, Peerdom, and County. They may have in their House such Officers as the King himself has, viz. Chancellor, Secretary, and others, with the Title of *Grandeess*; and they are stiled *Your Highness*, as if they were Sovereign Princes. The youngest Sons of the French King subscribe only with the proper Name, as well as the King himself: but their Posterity take their Title of the principal Country that makes up their Portions, as being henceforward accounted a separate Branch of the Princes of the Blood.

The Daughters of the French Kings have not any other Portions than Sums of Money, instead of Lands, which they have had heretofore. It is They alone who properly are called *Dames*, or *Ladies*, in *France*. The Princes of the Blood who become Church-Men keep the Rank belonging to their Birth, and not to the Ecclesiastical Order.

The King's Natural Sons have no share in the Succession either of the Crown or of the Royal Patrimony, but have an Entertainment at the King's Pleasure. They do not bear the Surname of *France*, but that of the Land given them, or of the Branch which they come from; as now the Duke of *Longueville* is called of *Orleanse*, He or his Predecessors being descended from Lewis Duke of *Orleanse*, Brother to King *Charles VI.* The Duke  
of



of Engoulême, was called *de Valois*, as being born of *Charles IX.* of the Branch of *Valois*: The Duke of *Vendosme* and his Issue bear the Name of *Vendosme*, because of that Land which King *Henry IV.* gave to their Fore-father.

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## C H A P. V.

*Of the Chief Officers of the Crown and Kingdom.*

THE greatest Office of the King's House, is that of Grand Master of his House, before whom, all the Officers that serve therein take the Oaths, and whom they are to obey. There is a Chief Steward of the Household, and a Steward of the Household in Ordinary, and others that serve quarterly, having a Stick in their Hands, set in Silver gilt at both Ends. They precede the Serving Gentlemen, when the Kings Meat goes by.

There is a Grand Provost of *France*, or Provost of the Household, which is a very ancient and authorized Office: Justice is exercised, under his Name, by two Lieutenants, the one in a long, and the other in a short Gown, by Serjeants, and by fifty Archers, cloathed in *Hoguetons* or Cassocks of Livery, that follow him, attend the Court,



and prosecute the Guilty six Leagues thereabouts. He also makes the Procedures of criminal Causes betwixt the Officers of the King's Household, and others that follow the Court; and when the King is on his March, he sets a Price upon Bread, Wine, Flesh, Hay, Oates, and other Provisions.

The Place of great Chamberlain is also very ancient, honourable and priviledged. He is Superintendant of the King's Chamber, of his Cloathings and Moveables. He lyes at the King's Feet, when he holds his Bed of Justice, or at the General States of the Kingdom, when the Kings used to call them.

There are four Chief Gentlemen of the King's Chamber that serve quarterly, a Master of the Wardrobe, a Master of the Ceremonies, a Leader of Ambassadors, who all take the Oaths in the King's Hands.

There was formerly a *Grand Queux*, or a Great Master of the King's Kitchin; but this Charge is now abolished, there having been none since *Lewis of Prie*, Lord of *Buzançois*, who died under *Charles VIII. An. 1490.* There are yet four Masters *Queux* or Cooks, who serve quarterly in the King's Kitchin.

The Great Master of the Pantry, and the Grand Butler, or Cup-bearer of *France*, do discharge



discharge their Duty but in great Solemnities, as at the King's Coronation, and the like; but there are Gentlemen of the King's Table, and Cup-bearers in ordinary, who make the Assay of the Meat and Drink that is presented to the King.

There is a great and little Stable of the King, the Gentlemen of the Little, pass upon the King when he is on Horseback. The Great Master of the Horse is constituted upon them all, and bears the Sword in a Velvet Scabbard, marked with Flower-de-Luces, on great Solemnities, before his Prince.

The *Marshals* of France judge of all Military Causes, and have their Lieutenants and Provosts to inform against, and seize upon Vagabonds and Deserters. They ordinarily wear a Stick, as a Badge of their Dignity, and when they receive it from the King, they take the Oath of Allegiance to him, in the High Court of Parliament at *Paris*. The Seat of their Jurisdiction is at the Marble-Table in the Palace of that Court, where their Power is very considerable, since the Suppression of the Charge of Lord Constable, upon whom they were formerly depending. However, this Power is somewhat counterbalanced by their great Increase in Number of late years.

The Lord Chancellor is the Head of all the Courts of Justice, and presides in all  
C 4 the



the King's Councils in his Absence. Besides, he cannot be destituted, but by Death or Trespass. And therefore the Kings, to keep this great Minister in awe, have a Lord Keeper of the Seals, whom they cause to discharge the Chancellor's Functions, by giving him the Seals; in which Occasion, the Chancellor retains no more but the bare Name of his Office. He has under him the Masters of the Requests, who serve quarterly, judge the Differences between the Officers of the Crown, and prepare such Matters as are to come before the King's Great Council.

This Council is now a Sovereign Court of Justice, whose Sentences are executed throughout the whole Kingdom; it's composed of the Chancellor and eight Masters of Requests. From this Court issue all the Placates, Ordinances and Proclamations. There are also a Council of State, a Council of the Exchequer, a Privy-Council, to determine Appeals and Contests about the Jurisdiction of Judges, and the Cabinet Council, who manages all the Affairs, and is as the Soul of the Realm.

Besides the twelve ancient Peers of *France*, there are near a hundred more created since two or three Centuries; but though they have the Privilege to sit in the Parliament at *Paris*, and not to be judged by any other Court, yet they fall short of the



the Lustre and Power of the first Peers.

The Knights of the Order of St. *Michael* instituted by *Lewis XI.* in 1469, are in no extraordinary Repute ; and this Order is now only considered as a step to that of the *Holy Ghost*, instituted by *Henry III.* in 1570, whose Knights are fewer in number and more respected, it being given as a token of special Favour, and to such as are already of St. *Michael's* Order, and considered by their Birth or Merits.

I supersede to speak of the Lord Admiral, the Vice-Admirals, and Reat-Admirals ; Of the Generals, Lieutenant-Generals, Masters de Camp, Collonels, &c. Of the Masters of the Ordnance, of the Lord Treasurers, Counsellors, and Secretaries of State ; of the Ambassadors, Lord Almoner, Under Almoners, Chaplains in Ordinary, and other Officers, either Civil, Military, or Ecclesiastical, who are little or nothing different from the like in *England*. But I must not forget to speak a word of the King's Confessor, who, though he has originally no more Power than the Clerk of the Closet here ; yet, through the superstitious Condescension of the late Kings, and the shrewd Management of those cunning Politicians, *Cotton*, *Annat* and *La Chaise*, are become so powerful, as to get into their Hands, the Direction of the most impor-



tant Affairs of the Kingdom, under pretence of Conscience. When the Jesuits were recalled into *France*, King *Henry IV.* was advised to take one of these Fathers for his Confessor, who should be as an Hostage for the Fidelity of the whole Club. But this very Caution proved his Ruine, for Father *Cotton*, whom he pitched upon, having first seduced his Queen, laid his Plot so well with *Spain* and his Fellow-Jesuits, that the King was murdered by *Ravaillac*: And that *Henry's* Ghostly Father and Queen had a Hand in this horrid Business, can hardly be doubted, after the Insinuations the sincere *Mezeray* gives of it.

There are two Charges in *France*, the like I don't know that we have in *England*, or at least they are not here in such a Consideration as in that Kingdom. The Officers who discharge them, are always Counts, or Dukes, or Princes of the Blood, and are called the *Great Huntsman*, and the *Great Falconer of France*. They have large Appointments, Gifts and Profits, and several Officers under them, whose Places are at their Disposal. The *Captain General of the Hunting-Nets*, and the *Great Wolf-Hunter*, keep likewise an honourable Rank, and all four are sworn by the King himself.

I shall finish this Chapter with mentioning the Way of administering Justice in *France*. Suits are for the most part commenced



menced before the ordinary Judges of the Place, which are called *Royal*, or *Seigneurial*, according as the Town or Village depends immediately upon the King, or a private Lord, except in some particular Cases, or when one of the Parties concerned is exempted from their Jurisdiction. Thence they are brought before the Baylives or Seneschals, who are Chief Justices of a certain Precinct, called *Baylwick*, *Vrignery*, *Provostship*, or *Seneshalship*. These Baylives are Noble Men, who bear a Sword instead of a Gown, and seldom discharge their Office themselves, but have two Lieutenants under them, one for Civil, and the other for Criminal Causes.

The last, and Supream Jurisdiction, is the High Court of Parliament, each of which is composed of ten, twelve, or fifteen Presidents, and well near eighty or an hundred Counsellors. The Power of this Court, is yet very great, because of the many Noble and Priviledged Men, whose Causes immediately resort to it. But it was much greater in times past, especially that of the Parliament of *Paris*, which was in some manner a standing Assembly of the General States : For no *Edict* or Proclamation of the King had the Force of a Law before it was *enteriné*, or ratify'd by them ; and they might reject such as were not, in their Judgments, fit for the Publick Good. A

Bold;



Boldness of which History furnisheth us with several Examples, even under the most powerful and respected Princes, as Lewis XI. Francis I. and Henry IV. But the late Ministers, Richelieu, Mazarin, Colbert and Louvois, have so far undermined the Authority of these Courts, that they not only dare not reject any of the King's Edicts, but dare not so much as make use of the Word *Enteriné*, their Style being now, *Lui & verifié en Parlement*: That is, Read and acknowledged for a true Writing, or Order of the King. The Intendants are the Men, whom the Promoters of Arbitrary Power have made a special use of to bring down the Power of Parliaments. They are a kind of Overseers, whom the French Kings began to send into the several Provinces of their Dominions fifty or sixty years ago, and who, under pretence of settling the King's Revenues, reconciling Differences about it, or seeing Justice well done, have considerably encroached upon the Jurisdiction of Parliaments, without that the Complaints of the last were ever regarded at Court. The preposterous Zeal of these Magistrates against the Reformed, was none of the least Causes of their Decay; for as often as any Suit, wherein both Churches seemed to be concerned, came before them, we were sure to get an *Arrêt de Partage*; or that the Protestant President and Counsellors would give



give their Voice in favour of the Defenders, whereas the Roman Catholics would decide for the Plaintiffs, how ill grounded be-  
 ver their Actions might be. This of course brought the Decision of the Matter before the King's Council; so that our Reformed seeing that no Justice was to be hoped from the Parliament, made an Interest to remove the Cause before the King's Council, that they might avoid expences, which many other imitated, not without the secret Support of the Court.

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## CHAP. VI.

### *Of the Religion of the French.*

THE Reader must not here expect an Account of the *Bardes* and *Druides*, or of the Idolatrous Worship of the ancient *Gauls*; neither am I minded to assert, or confute what has been said concerning St. Denis, the *Areopagite*, being Bishop of *Paris*, or St. Martial, Bishop of *Limoges*, and both Apostles of the *Gauls*, about the Year 70. By whomsoever the Christian Religion has been first preached in *France*, sure it is, that it was early enough, since in the middle of the second Century, there were two conspicuous Churches at *Lyons* and *Vienne*, who endured a long and bloody Persecution,



cution, under the Empire of *Marc. Aurel.* An. 176. By what Means and Degrees Popery corrupted Christianity, is not a Mystery in this Protestant Kingdom; but I have some Observations to make upon the Progress and present State of that Superstitious Worship in *France*.

It's well known that Superstition began to creep into the Church by the over-great Honour the Faithful rendered to those Christian Heroes, the Martyrs, who, contrary to the Heathen, that got a Name by their being troublesome to others, signalized themselves by their own Sufferings. And with great reason were they so much revered, since the Pagan Antiquity, which mentions so many *Hercules*, can hardly supply us with an *Anaxarchus*. While these couragious Athletes lay in Prison, Sinners were released of their Penances upon their Intercession; after their Death, their Tombs were the Gathering-place of the Faithful, and when God had given Peace to his Church, Temples were built upon, or near their Graves, and called after their Names. And as the Vulgar doth not know how to keep the golden middle Path, hates or loves, despises or praises to excess; So this due and lawful Remembrance soon degenerated into an Idolatrous Worship. Perhaps at the beginning it had been easie to Clergy-Men to put a Stop to that Superstition; but the Generality



Generality found, it seems, their Reckoning by it, and pious Men durst not oppose the Current. However the Gauls had the Honour to produce one *Jovinian*, a Monk of *Milan*, who endured a long Persecution for openly disproving the creeping Practices of Coelibacy, Vows, and the Veneration of Reliques, in the time of *St. Ambrose*. But a greater Man than *Jovinian* whom neither *Italians* nor *Spaniards* can challenge, is *Vigilantius*; for he was born at *Calaguri*, a small Borough near *Cominges* in *Gascony*. True it is, that *St. Jerom* disputed against him with much Violence; but the Learned know, that the Conduct of this Father is not so much commended as his Science; and notwithstanding his Out-crys, *Vigilantius* quietly died in the Communion of the Church, and left a great many Disciples, who seem to have been the Fore-fathers of the *Albigenses*; as those of *Jovinian* maintained the Truth in the Churches of *Italy*, till *Claudius*, Archbishop of *Turin* arose, and was succeeded by the *Vaudais*.

The second Step of Superstition, was the Worship of Images, which when the Emperors of the *East* could no longer oppose, God raised *Charlemaign* in the *West*, who caus'd it to be condemned, together with the second Council of *Nice*; in another held at *Francfort*, Ann. 794. At the same time *Agobard*, Archbishop of *Lyons*, and *Claudius*.



*Claudius* of *Turin*, preach'd and wrote against these Idolatrous Practices; which prevail'd at last, during the Weakness and Divisions of *Charlemagne's* House and Successors.

Transubstantiation was a casual Offspring of Image-Worship; for when the Orthodox told the Iconolatre's that God's Son had left us but an Image of himself, namely, the Holy Sacrament, which notwithstanding he never commanded to adore; the last, after many Subterfuges, finally bethought themselves of this Answer: That the consecrated Bread and Wine were not a simple Image of our Lord, but his true Body and Blood. Against this strange Doctrine, *Bertram*, or *Ratramn*, Priest and Monk of *Corby* in *Picardy*, composed a Book about the Year 850. and a little after, *John Scot Erigeene*, Professor of Divinity in the University of *Paris*, wrote of the same Matter, both by Order of *Charles* the Bald, Emperor. By the Opposition of these great Men, this monstrous Tenet was somewhat suppressed; but as it lifted up its Head again, after their Death, *Berengarius*, Arch-Deacon of *Angers*, arose for the Truth, in 1035; was a long time maintained by several French Bishops, against the Power and Persecution of the Popes, and dy'd in the Communion of the Church Ann. 1088, not without solemnly recalling the nonsensical Confession which the Popes *Ni-*  
*colas*



*colas II.* and *Gregory VII.* had forced upon him.

After *Berengarius*, the Assertors of the Truth had more dreadful Storms to go through ; however, France was never wanting such Christian Heroes. Some rejected all the Popish Errors, as *Peter de Bruys*, and *Henry of Tolose*, the *Waldenses* and *Albigenses*. Some confuted Transubstantiation, as *John Dr. of Paris*, known under the Name of *Joannes de Parisiis* ; others bewailed the Corruption of the Church, as *Nicolas of Clemangis* ; others inveighed against the Monks, their Luxury and Covetousness, especially *William of St. Amour*. As to those that opposed the Tyranny and Usurpations of the Popes, it would be too tedious to enumerate them, and I refer my Reader to the Learned *Richer* and *Du Pin*. *De potest. Eccles.* L. 1. c. 3. *De Antiq. Eccles. Discipl.* Diff. 7.

The French Soyl being so well prepared to receive the Seed of the Gospel, 'tis not to be wondered at, if the Disciples of *Luther*, and the Writings of *Calvin* caused such a Harvest in that Kingdom ; one ought rather to be surpriz'd that it was not fruitful every where, and that, against all Appearance, in less than 200 Years, the Roman Tare has outwardly covered the whole Realm again. I say, against all appearance, for it seems somewhat strange, that some  
Nor-



Northern Countries have generally imbrac'd, and hitherto preserved the Reformation, and that the quick-sighted French have suffered themselves to be imposed upon so far, as to let Popery and Tyranny prevail, after they had spilt so much Blood to obtain at least a Liberty of Conscience. I will not presume to enter the Secrets of God : but as the ways of his Providence may sometimes be discovered after the Event, and the Faults of our Fore-fathers, or the Frauds of our Enemies may make us wiser for the future, so it will not, methinks, be amiss, to observe the Causes that have put a stop to the Reformation in *France*.

1. In most of the Countries that reformed themselves, the Church-Revenues were not all disposed of, according to the pious Intent of the Givers ; but a good part was appropriated to Secular Uses ; which alienated the Hearts of the Clergy in other Countries, and gave them occasion to insinuate to the People, that Covetousness, and not the Love of the Truth, was the chief Motive of their Change. This Inconvenience might have been prevented by some Foundations for promoting Learning and Piety, and erecting up Schools, Colledges, and Places for the Retirement of the Learned, who had served the Church a certain time, or were fitter for Writing than Preaching.

2. *Calvin*



2. Calvin chancing to light upon Geneva, established there a Form of Ecclesiastical Government, very suitable to a Commonwealth, but not at all to a Kingdom: The French Protestants however set up the same amongst them, which was pardonable enough during the Persecution, since they had not the Means to keep up Bishops, and that they had been more exposed than simple Ministers, both because of their Dignity, and their Opposition to the Roman Prelates. But when God had given them a Protestant King, who conquered a good part of his Realm with the Dint of his Sword; when so many of the Bishops and Nobility resorted to Henry IV: 'tis a wonder that his Presbyterian Ministers never thought of submitting to the Prelates, provided the Prelates would submit to the Truth.

3. Thence arose another Evil, for there being no Means of Subsistence for Dignitaries amongst the Reformed, no, not so much as an honorable Recompence for the Learned; after the Separation was made, very few came over to them out of the Roman Church, and a greater Number of their Ministers was seduced to the Popish Tenets.

4. To cheat People of their Money, the Monks had invented, or adorned with fabulous Stories, the Doctrine of Purgatory,



ry, and made them believe at the same time, that they might redeem themselves either with Money, or painful Satisfaction; which the Reformers perceiving, drove on perhaps too forwardly the Doctrines of absolute Predestination, and free Grace. The subtil Controvertists of the Roman Church, let not slip this Occasion of ridiculing their Adversaries, and traduced them as Enemies to good Works, and such as overthrew the *Moral* of the Gospel. These Accusations, how false soever they were, being set up by able Pens, were sufficient to amuse the Vulgar, and to hinder them from opening their Eyes to see the gross Errors of Popery, which in the mean time were not urged.

5. It's well known, that there has been a pretended *Holy League* in *France*, for maintaining the Roman Catholick Religion, and that the Dukes of *Guise* were Chieftenants and Promoters of it; but they who have not read the Books of those Times, are not so well acquainted with the Artifices they used to draw in so many of the Nobility. They perswaded them that the *Huguenots* were Commonwealth-men, who intended to subvert the Kingdom, and dismember it into several petty Principalities and Republicks, just as their Brethren the *Switzers*, or the Free Towns and Princes of *Germany*. By these Insinuations, great and aspiring Men, who cannot make considerable For-  
tunes



runes under a weak Government, stuck close to them.

6. As to the last Persecution of the *French Protestants*, as it has been long, and in a manner insensible, during Thirty or Forty Years, but at the latter end extremely cruel, sudden, and unfore-seen, so it could not be prevented, either by any Forreign Power, or any Insurrection within. The French Cardinals and Jesuits no less cruel and cunning than the Wolves of the Fable, took from the Reformed their Places of Surety, seduced their great Men, invaded their Priviledges, and fell upon Dragoon-ing them; when they were disarmed, and out of state of making any Defence: But it will smart them, I hope, before it be long. For besides that, God never left such a perfidiousness unpunished; they are so far from having extirpated the Reformation, that they have spread it farther, by mingling the Protestants amongst them. And any one may easily suppose, that, during the Separation, the Reformed had not so many fair Occasions of instilling into them a secret Horror for superstitious Practices, as they have now.

And let this suffice to the First Part of our Description: I had resolved to follow in the Second Part, the ordinary Division of *France*, in Twelve Governments; but since I considered that this Method would be troublesome both to me and my Readers,  
and



and perhaps make me overskip some of the Countries included in the general Governments : Besides that, there are now Nineteen, and not Twelve of them, so that I thought it more convenient to begin at one End, as with *Lorrain*, then pursuing my way Northwards, to make the *Grand Tour* of France, and go out of it through the County of *Burgundy*, than to puzzle my self and others with unnecessary Bounds and Divisions. However, I will not fail to mark the Extent of each Government, and the Countries belonging to it.

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# DESCRIPTION OF FRANCE.

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## PART II.

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### WHEREIN

Each of its great Provinces, smaller Counties, Cities, Towns, Royal Houses, Forests, Mountains, Coasts, Rivers and Lakes are Geographically and Historically described.

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### CHAP. I.

LORRAIN, *the Three Bishopricks, and the Dutchy of BAR.*

**T**HIS Province is called thus from *Lothaire*, Grand-Son of *Lewis the Meek*, Emperour and King of *France*, who was Sovereign thereof, when it was far greater, and bore the Name of Kingdom.  
The



The whole Dutchy belongs now to the King of *France*, who has usurped the greatest part of it upon *Charles III.* the true Sovereign, and forced him to make over his Right to him. The present Bounds of this Province, are *Elzas* and the *Palatinate* on the East, *Champaign* on the West, *Luxembourg* and the *Electorate of Triers* on the North, and the County of *Burgundy* on the South. The Inhabitants are Warlike, and the Country for the most part covered with Woods and Forests, yet well stock'd with Corn, Vines and Minerals; nor does it want pleasant Rivers, and good Waters. Its Towns are well built, strong and rich.

**NANCY** the Capital of *Lorrain* was the ordinary Residence of the Dukes, whose Court was crouded with great Numbers of Nobility and Gentry. It was here that those Princes-Riches made a fine Sight, especially two Tables of a great Length and Breadth, one Marble, the other Silver-gilt, or washed over with Gold, with several Figures and Emblems, and Latin Verses most artificially engraven upon them. There were also costly Hangings, and the Effigies of a Man in Wood, whose Muscles seemed to move, and were interwoven with so much Art, that it was a perfect Wonder. The Dukes Tombs are likewise here, amongst which, that of *Renatus*, who overcame the *Burgundians*, is most considerable; that of *Charles Duke of Burgundy*



gally is there also. The *Arsenal* was well provided with all Necessaries, and its Fortifications designed to render it impregnable, before the English took it. There is a Bog or fenny Place pretty nigh the Town, in the midst of which is a Cross of Stone, with an Inscription in French, that marks the Defeat of the *Burgundians* under *Charles* the Rash, their last Duke, *An.* 1477. The Town is situated about an hundred Steps from the *Meurte*, which discharges it self into the *Moselle*, four or five Miles from thence. *Nancy* is divided into Old and New Town; the Old has the Palace of the Dukes, but the New is greater, and better fortified. The French destroy'd its Fortifications in 1664, and afterwards repaired them. There is a Chamber of Accounts, and a Seneshalship.

This Province has also *Bar le Duc*, Capital of the Dutchy of that Name: It was built by *Frederick*, Duke of the *Mozellane Lorrain*, in 951, and fortified with a strong Castle, to prevent the Incursions of the *Champenois*. There were several other strong Places, amongst the rest, *Marfal* and *Moyenvic*, whose Fortifications the French have destroyed, as well as the Castle of *Bar le Duc*. Near *Moyenvic* are commodious Salt-Pits.

I must not forget the three Bishopricks taken from *Charles V.* in 1552. viz. *Toul*, *Metz* and *Verdun*, because they are included in this Province, and are nearly ty'd to it,

D

especially



especially in what concerns Spiritual Jurisdiction, though as to the Civil, they make a separate Government.

*Toul, Tullum Leucorum*, is a Town well built, situated upon the *Mosell*, twelve Miles from *Nancy*. It's pretty big, and boasts of *St. Bernard's Tomb*, over which is a Crown extraordinary well worked; its Diocess is pretty large.

• *Verdun, Verodunum*, a very pleasant City, situated in a fruitful and good Soil on the River *Meuse*, Twenty six Miles from *Mets*, Its Bishops take the Title of Counts of *Verdun*, and Princes of the Holy Empire. It has a strong Citadel and Baylwick, and is renowned for its Aniseed.

*Mets* is also a very pleasant Town, both for its Houses, its Cathedral of *St. Stephen*, a true Master-piece of Architecture, and the River *Moselle* and *Seille* that wash it. It is a very ancient City, since *Cesar*, *Plinius*, *Tacite* and *Ptolomy* mention it under the Name of *Divodurum Mediomatricum*, and speak of it as the chief Town of that Country, and of the People called *Mediomatrices*, now *Les habitants du pais Messin*. In process of time, it became still more and more Famous; and under the French Kings of the first Race, was Capital of the Kingdom of *Austrasia*, called also the Kingdom of *Mets*; since *Theodoric*, Son to *Clouis the Great*, had chosen it for the Seat of his Empire,



Empire. In the Decay of Charlemaign's House, *Mets* erected it self into a free Imperial Town, under the Government of its own Magistrates, who had Power of Life and Death, and of Coining of Money. And so jealous they were of their Liberty, that *Charles VII.* King of *France*, besieging them in 1444, on the behalf of *Renatus* Duke of *Lorrain*, they rather chose to see their Country wasted during seven Months, and to redeem themselves with 300000 Livres, than to loose their Liberty. Thus they kept it till the Year 1552, that their City was taken by the Lord of *Montmorency*, High Constable of *France*. In the Month of *October*, of the same Year, *Charles V.* besieged it in vain, and as it was the last Undertaking of this Emperour, it gave occasion to this Verse, alluding to the modern Name of this Town in Latin, *Metæ*.

*Siste viam Metis, hæc tibi meta datur.*

There is seen in *St. Stephen's Church*, a Vessel of Red Porphyry, ten Foot long, and all of a piece, which serves to keep their Holy Water in. This great Town has no Suburbs, and is all surrounded with a strong Rampier, and deep and wide Ditches, that can be filled at pleasure, only opening a Sluce to let in the *Moselle*: Yet for its greater Strength, a Citadel with four Bastions,



have been built there of late. The People are well bred, Civil and Numerous, and drive a great Trade into Germany. The Circumference of the Town is pretty big; its Bishop entitles himself Prince of the Empire, and has four Arch-Deacons under him, with 623 Parishes.

In 1633, Lewis XIII. established there a Parliament, which the Commissioners of the Emperour opposed, saying, That the French King was only Protector of the three Bishopricks, and not absolute Sovereign thereof; and consequently, that he might not deprive the Inhabitants of their ancient Laws, and the Right they had to bring their Appeals before the Imperial Chamber at Spire. These Complaints lasted to the Peace of Munster, in which the three Bishopricks and Moyenvic were yielded unconditionally and for ever to the Crown of France, save only the Right of Metropolitan to the Archbishop of Triers.

This Parliament, as it was the last, so it was at first the least considerable, next to that of Pau, the three Bishopricks only resorting to it. But since the Conquest of Lorrain, Luxemburg, and adjacent Countries, its Jurisdiction is mightily enlarged. It made a great Noise some time after the Peace of Nimeguen, about the Year 1680, when the French King erected there a Chamber of Dependancies, whose Judges summoned the Spanish Subjects to come and swear



swear Allegiance to the French King, under pretence that they were depending upon some of his new Conquests. By this Shrewdness, he got more Lands during the Peace, than he had done in the War.

The Dukedom of *Luxemburg* is under the Governour of *Lorrain*; but I supercede to make a particular Description of it, because the Low-Countries deserve a Treatise by it self. I shall only observe, that there is a Sovereign Council in the Capital, whereunto the whole Province resorts.

At a League's distance from the Town, is a Village called *Fovy*, where are still to be seen some Remains of an Aqueduct, built by the Romans, with Arches of a fine white Stone, cut in Form of Bricks, and above Sixty Foot high.

Besides this, there is another considerable Place near *Nancy*, called *St. Nicolas*, that should deserve rather to be called one of the greatest Towns of *Lorrain*, for the Number of its Inhabitants, and considerable Traffick, than a simple Borough, if it were walled in. The other most considerable Places near the Capital, are *Eruart*, which is but a League off it; *Ormes*, *Bayon*, *Pont a Mousson*, famous for its University, founded by *Charles*, Cardinal of *Lorrain*, on behalf of the Jesuits, An. 1573, and very pleasant by reason of its fruitful Soil, and of the *Mosell*, which runs through the mid-



dle of the Town, and is passed with a Bridge; whence, and from a neighbouring Mountain, called *Mousson*, is derived the Name of *Pont à Mousson*. Then *Veze-lize*, *Roziere*, *Blancmont*, *Gerbevillier*, *Charmes*, *Chastenoy*, *Moranges*, *Vaucouleur*, the Birth-place of *Jane d'Arc*, called the Virgin, or Maiden of Orleans, *Mexan-sous-Bresse*, *Dompaire*, *Deneure*, *Hoden*, *Chateau-Rambervillier*, *Raon*, *Bellemont*, *Neuf-chastel*, *Magstat*, *Marchainville*, *Espinal Bruyeres*, *Darney*, *Ormont*, *Valderfing*, *Beauzains*, *Vaigni*, *Estraye*, *Estival*, *Luneville*, *Fauquemont*, *Sare-Louis*, a new Fortress, with a Presidial, *Vandervange*, the Seat of a Baylwick, &c.

Its Counties are *Vaudemont*, *Chaligni*, *Amance*, formerly the Chancery of *Lorraine*, *Mirecourt*, *Remiremont* and *La Mothe*. At *Remiremont*, upon the *Mosell*, is a famous Monastery of Canonesses, where Noble Mens Daughters are only received. The Abbess is not suffered to leave the Habit, but all the Nuns can go out and marry if they please. *La Mothe* was a small Town on the Frontiers of *Champaign*; but being built on a steep Rock, washed by a Brook, it was accounted impregnable, before the Marshal *de la Force* took it, *Ann.* 1634, for the French King *Lewis XIII.* who caused it afterwards to be demolished. Its Lordships, are *Marsal*, *Remereville*, *S. Bellemont*, *Ramberville*, *Homburg*, *Mariemont* and *Sandacourt*.



*ducourt.* Phalzburg has the Title of Principality: It is situated at the Foot of the Mountains, on the Frontiers of *Elzas*, seven or eight Leagues from *Strasburg*; but is not so considerable as it was formerly.

*Lorrain* also comprehends the Dutchy of *Bar*, which reaches to *Neuf Chastel*, or *New-Castle*, whereof the principal Town is *Bar le Duc* the less considerable, *S. Mibel*, a strong Town, whose Inhabitants made bold to rebel against King *Lewis XIII.* in behalf of their Duke *Charles III.* for which, some of them were sent to the Gallies, after the Year 1633. Then *Ligni*, *Moigneville*, *Lon-champ*, *Commercy*, &c. The Mountains of *Vauge*, *Vougeft Montes*, who separate *Lorrain* from the County of *Burgundy* and *Elzas*, take up about an hundred Miles in length from West to East, and from South to North. Thence springs the *Mosell*, near a Village called *Buffans*, on the Frontiers of *Franche-County* and *Elzas*, takes its Course towards *Remiremont*, where it receives several Brooks; amongst others, the *Vologne*, or *Koloye*, increased with the *Nany* at a Village called *Chamery*; then it goes down to *Espinal*, *Chastel*, *Charmes*, *Bayon* and *Chaligny*, where the *Modon*, with the Waters of the *Illon*, *Rezelize*, &c. discharges it self into it. Afterwards, it washes *Toul* and *Pont à Mousson*, and between these two Cities, receives the *Meurte*, which comes also



from the Mountains of *Vauge*, goes by *S. Dicy*, *Raon*, *Lunville*, *Roziere*, *S. Nicolas*, Then being Increased with several other Rivers, washes *Nancy*, and looses it self into the *Mosell*, near the Castle of *Condé*. As to the *Mosell*, it pursues its Course towards *Mets*, where it receives the *Seille*, that seems to issue from a Lake near *Marsal*; then goes down to *Thionville* and *Triers*. There it is increased with the *Sire*, that springs likewise from the Mountains *Vauge*, near *Salms*, and washes several Places, to which it gives its Name, as *Sarburg*, *Saralbe*, *Sargomine*, and *Sarprich*. Finally, having made several Windings and Turnings, and received some other Rivers, it goes to *Coblentz*, and mixes there with the *Rhine*. The *Saone* takes its Source on the other side of these Mountains, which had given the thoughts of digging a Channel to joyn these two Rivers, that there might be a Communication between the Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea. The Project was begun under the Emperor *Nero*, but was not followed. In fine, this Dutchy comprehending the *Barrois*, is four Days Journey, that is, about forty Leagues in length from *Stenay* to *Darnay*, and near so many in breadth from *Bar le Duc* to *Biche*; the whole abounding in Wheat, Wine, and all other Necessaries for Man's Sustenance; as in Beasts or Cattle of all Kinds, Fish in their Rivers and Ponds, Baths that are much esteemed, and Salt-



Salt-pits that are none of the worst. It's also rich in Mines of Silver, Brass, Iron, Tin and Lead; and at the Foot of the Mountains of *Vauge*, are found Azure-Stones, with some Pearls, and the best Stuff in the World to make Looking-glasses of; besides, *Cassidonies* of such considerable bigness, that Drinking-Cups are made of them. Neither *Turkey*, nor the Kingdom of *Naples* can furnish better Horses than *Lorrain*, nor is there better fresh Water-Fish in the World than its Trouws, Salmons, Pearches, Carps and Tenches are. The Carps in a Lake that is fourteen Leagues in circuit, are some of them three or four foot long.

As for the Manners and Customs of the Inhabitants, they have been observed to be a Mixture of the German and French. The People will drink hard, are free and open, and not as cunning or ingenious as other Nations: Yet the Gentry, as they are stout and brave, so do they likewise pretend to Wit and good Breeding, some taking to the German Fashion, but a great part living after the French. Under their Dukes, as they were not overburthened with Taxes, and lived pretty rich and easie, so they denied themselves no Pleasures or Diversions, and Feasts, Plays, Balls, Musick, &c. were very frequent, and in great request amongst them. However the Country is still very good and pleasant; for Men of Business may imploy



themselves in Trafficking, and they who need not to take so much Trouble, may Hunt, Feast and rejoyce as pleasantly here as in any other place whatsoever.

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## CHAP. II.

*The Principality of SEDAN and Dukedom of BOUILLON and RETHEL.*

**I** Put here this Principallty, because it is in my way from *Lorraine* to *Champaign*, though it belongs now to this last Government. But before I enter into it, I must describe the famous Forest of *Ardenne*. *Arduenna Sylva*, apparently so-called, because 'tis so rugged and craggy, and the Ways in some places so narrow, that Carters go along winding a Horn, to hinder that others should meet with them. In *Cesar's* time, it reached from *Rheims* in *Champaign* to the *Rhine*, and thence to *Tournay* on the *Scheld*; so that it was extended an hundred and thirty Miles in length, fifty or sixty in breadth in some places, and covered part of *Champaign* and *Lorraine*, of *Luxemburg* and the Bishoprick of *Liege*, and of the Counties of *Namur*, *Haynaut* and *Flanders*, which are now filled with so many fair Cities. Now this Forest has not above forty Miles in length from *Thionville* on the *Mosell*, in the Dutchy



Dutchy of *Luxemburg*, to *Dorchtry* and *Sedan*. The Emperours *Charlémaign* and *Louis* the Meek took a Delight in Hunting there, especially in Autumn, that they made a Royal Sport of Gaming, with great Preparations. *Sigebert*, King of *Austrasia*, had built two Abbies in the midst of it, which are now in the Neighbourhood.

This Principality, which is but four Leagues in square, is included between *Champaign*, *Lorraine* and *Luxemburg*. It belong'd formerly to the famous Family of the Dukes of *Bouillon*, and Viscounts of *Turenne*, well known for their many and great Exploits, untill *Lewis XIII.* or rather his ambitious Minister, Cardinal *Richelieu*, made bold to deprive them of it, in the Year 1642. It's true, they have had some Lands in exchange, but they are not to be compared to these, either for Profit or Honour, were it but for the Title of Sovereignty. This Country, though it is covered with Woods, as I have hinted, does not want, however, a Competency of Corn, which makes the Abode both agreeable and cheap. The chief Town is *Sedan*, whose Situation is pleasant enough, because the *Mosell* runs by it, though of one side it has a Mountain; both these, with its good Castle, render it impregnable. It's said, the Platform is so great, that 2000 Men might be drawn up upon it, and its Magazines



zias so well furnished, that few in the Kingdom can equal them. The Town is not very big and has but three principal Streets. There was an University that has been formerly famous, and filled up with great Men, as *Du Moulin*, *Jarnes Chappel Le Blanc* and *Jurieu*; nor ought the Professor *Tilenus* to be forgotten, though he lost his Place because he maintained *Arminius's* Tenets. The Principality of *Rancourt*, and the Provostship of *Donchery* are depending upon *Sedan*; the first lying North, and the Second South-West of it.

2. The Dutchy of *Bouillon*, between *Sedan*, *Luxemburg* and *Liege*, belongs yet to the Dukes of that Name: It is of no great extent, and the Capital *Bouillon* is but a good Burrough, situated on the River *Semois*; but has a Castle built on a steep Rock, with Lodging-rooms even in the Rock, so that Bombs and Mines can have but little effect upon it. In the Year 1683, the Spaniards having declared War against France, that they might ingage the Hollanders to do the same; the French King, by derision, caused the Duke of *Bouillon* to give out a Declaration of War against Spain.

3. At the coming out of *Sedan*, is seen the Town and strong Castle of *Mézières*, where the French King always keeps a good Garrison; and then you come into the Dutchy of *Reims*, which belongs to the Duke of Mantua,



*Mantua*, whereof the Capital called *Retbel* is one of the strongest Places in the Kingdom. It's now called *Mazarin*, and makes part of the Government of *Champaign*. The Prince of *Condé*, who was then on the Spaniards side, took it in 1653. In the same Dutchy, is *Charleville*, a very pleasant and strong Town, built upon the *Meuse* by *Charles Gonzague*, Duke of *Nevers* and *Mantua*. On the other side of the River is Mount *Olymp*, with the Ruins of an old Castle, that was, as 'tis believed, a Temple of the Heathens, and where the French King keeps a Governour. *Rocroy* was also a very strong Town, whence the Spaniards made Incursions into *Champaign*, but since besieged it in vain, and were defeated near it in 1643, by the Duke of *Anguien*. *Stenay*, upon the *Meuse*, was one of the Keys of *Lorraine*, but having been taken from his Duke, was united to *Champaign* in 1633. *Mousson*, on the other side of *Meuse*, between *Sedan* and *Stenay*, belonged formerly to the Empire, having been taken from the French by Count, *Nassau* General of *Charles V.* but was retaken Thirty Years after, and a small Hill, which commands it, was extremely fortified. The French King keeps there a Governour too.



## C H A P. III.

## Champaign.

THIS Province is one of the best and largest of the whole Kingdom, it has *Franche-County*, *Lorraine* and *Barrois* to the East, *Burgundy* to the South, *Picardy*, the *Ile of France*, and the *Gastinois* to the West, *Luxemburg* and *Hainaut* to the North. It is about Ninety Miles East and West, from *Tilly* to *Claye* in *Brie*, and an Hundred twenty six North and South, from *Recroy* in *Rhetelois* to *Fontaine-Françoise* in *Burgundy*. It's called *Champaign* from its great Plains, and divided into upper and Lower: the Upper, which is more Northerly; has great Chalky Plains, without Trees, Rivers or Fountains; and produces no other Corn but Rye, with great Woods towards the North. The Lower is more fruitful, especially in Wines. *Champaign* is likewise divided into eight Baylwyks or Precincts. Proper *Champaign*, or the Country of *Troyes*, *Rhemois*, *Perthois*, *Rethelois*, *Vallage*, *Bassigny*, *Senonois*, *Brie-Champenoise*: For the Province of *Brie* is partly a Dependance of this Government, and both were, in *Cæsar's* time, part of the Belgick. Three of the ancient Counts of *Champaign* have been Kings of *Navarre*, viz. *Thibaud IV.* *Thibaud V.* and *Henry III.* that left



left but a Daughter called *Jane*, married in 1284 to *Philip the Fair*, King of France, who united this County to his Crown, after it had been separated from it 326 Years, since *Robert*, the first Sovereign Earl of *Champaign* in 958. These Counts have been once so powerful, that they made bold to war against the French Kings, and at other times against the Kings of *Burgundy*, and the Emperours of *Germany*. They had seven Counts for their Vassals, called the Peers of *Champaign*; namely, those of *Joigni*, *Retel*, *Brienne*, *Rouci*, *Braine*, *Grand-Pré* and *Bar* upon the *Seine*. *Champaign* has yet two Archbishopricks, *Rheims* and *Sens*, four Bishopricks, *Chalons* upon the *Marne*, *Langres*, *Troyes*, accounted by most the Capital of the Province, and *Meaux*, the chief Town of *Brie*. Its Rivers are, 1. The *Seine*, which receives the *Yonne*, the *Marne*, the *Aube*, and has been already described. The *Yonne* comes from the *Nivernois*, three Leagues from *Clemessi*, receives the *Cure*, the *Armangon* and the *Venne*, goes by *Auxerre* and *Sens*, and falls into the *Seine* at *Montereau*. The *Marne* *Matrona* has its Source in *Champaign*, in a Place called the *Marmore*, washes *Langres*, *Roland-Pont*, *Chaumont*, *Jainville*, *St. Dizier*, *Vitry*, *Chalons*, *Espernay*, *Dormans*, *Chateau-Thierry*, *La Ferté* under *Fouâtre*, *Meaux* and *Lagny*, and being encreased with the Waters of *Vannori*, *St. Geome*, the *Mausche*, the *Swize*, the



the *Blaize*, the *Saude*, the *Roignon*, the *Moyron*, the *Soupe*, and great and little *Morin* mixes with the *Seine* at the Bridge of *Charenton*, about a League off *Paris*. The *Aube*, *Alba* and *Albula*, springs in the Diocess of *Lan-gres*, at a Place called *Auberive*, washes *La Ferté*, *Clervaux*, *Bar*, *Romeru*, and discharges it self into the *Seine* near *Marcilly*. 2. The *Aisne*, *Axonia* is formed from two Fountains, the one comes from *Beaulieu* in *Argonne*, up higher *S. Menebould*, whereby it passes; the other from the Dutchy of *Bar*, beyond *Clermont*, which it goes by. Then both Fountains being united at *Mouron*, wash *Rechel*, *Chateau-Porcien*, *Soissons*, and having received the *Vesle*, that passes through *Rheims* and *Fismes*, it mixes with the *Oyse* above *Compiègne*. 3. The *Meuse* springs in *Champaign*, near a Village of that Name, and *Montigni le Roi*, but goes soon out of it through *Lorrain* and *Barrois*, the County of *Namur*, the Bishoprick of *Liège*, *Gueldres* and *Holland*, where it falls into the Sea below *Rotterdam*, and near the *Briel*.

### 1. Rheims.

**R**heims, esteemed by some Capital of *Champaign*, is a very ancient Town, as appears by *Cæsar's Fort*, that is not far off it. Its Compass is wide, surrounded with good Walls, of about a League in circuit, and



and embellished with very magnificent Structures, especially the Archiepiscopal Church consecrated to our Lady, which is one of the most sumptuous, and most accomplished Buildings in the whole Kingdom. Its Portail Raising as high as the very Towers: Sixty seven Canons officiate daily in this Church; besides, there is another consecrated to St. Remy, with the Title of Abby, wherein the *Ampoule*, pretended to be brought from Heaven, at the Consecration of *Clouis*, and since destined for anointing the Monarchs of *France*, is carefully kept, with several other Curiosities, as the Representation of the Twelve Dukes and Peers of *France*. dressed as when they assist at the King's Coronation; which Ceremony is for the most part performed in this Town. Its Archbishop is the first Duke, and Ecclesiastical Peer of *France*, and has for Suffragans, *Soissons*, *Chalons*, upon the *Marne*, *Laon*, *Senlis*, *Beauvais*, *Amiens*, *Noyon* and *Boulogne*; and before *Cambray* was erected into an Archbishoprick, this City, together with *Arras* and *Tournay*, depended upon the Metropolitan of *Rheims*. The ancient Latin Authors called it *Duricortorum*, and *Duricortora Remorum*, and the Modern, *Remi* and *Remensis Civitas*. Besides the Cathedral, that bears the Name of our Lady, and the Abby of St. Remy; there are three other Abbies, and several Parochial Churches and



and Monasteries, a Presidial and Baylwick, and an University, founded by *Charles of Lorrain*, one of its Archbishops.

In 1677, was discovered at *Rheims* a famous Monument of Antiquity, a triumphal Arch, which formerly was the Northern Gate of the City, called the *Port of Mars*. This Arch is composed of three other Arches, 1. The *Arch of the Seasons* in the middle represents the four Seasons by four Children and a Woman, who denotes Abundance, sitting amongst them; round about are drawn the Twelve Months, in so many Pictures, with several Ornaments that time has partly defaced. 2. The *Arch of Romulus*, on the right side has a Square enriched with Trophies, including the Picture of *Remus* and *Romulus* sucking a She-Wolf; near which are two Figures, having each a Stick in their Hand; but one is covered with a Helm, and the other with a Lawrel-Crown: It's thought they were the Images of the Shepherd *Faustulus* and *Acca Laurentia* his Wife. 3. The *Arch of Leda*, on the left side represents *Leda*, *Castor* and *Pollux's* Mother, together with a Swan, and *Cupid* holding a Link in his Hand. The Inhabitants are courteous and witty; but they and the *Briens* are accused of being obstinate and headstrong in their Sentiments.

Going



Going out of *Rheims* towards the South-west, one finds a fruitful Soil, good Meadows, pleasant Gardens, and plenty of Vines. The City is Capital of a small Country called the *Rhemois*, which contains *Fismes*, *Cormicy*, *Pont-Favergue* and *Machault*.

## 2. Precinct of *Chalons* and *Troyes*.

ON the South-East, and South of *Rhemois* are the Precinct of *Chalons* and *Troyes*, which make up *Champaign*, properly so called. There you will find the Towns or Boroughs of *Chastillon*, *Damery*, *Dormans*, *Condé*, *Espernay*, *Montmaur*, *Ay*, *Avesnay*, *S. Menehould*, *Chalons*. Then you will meet with *Verrus*, *Fore-Champonosie*, *Plancy*, *Arcey*, *Pont-sur-seine*, *Mery*, *Romeru*, *Pongy*, *Piney*, *Vandeure*, *Troyes* and *Villemaur*.

## *Chalons*.

THIS Town, called *Catalaunum* by the *Latins*, is one of the Chiefest of *Champaign* in Beauty, Bigness, Wealth and Priviledges. Its Situation is very pleasant, because the River *Marn* runs by its Walls, and parts it from one of the Suburbs; besides the Conveniency it gives them of transporting their Wares and Commodities to *Paris*. Its Buildings are very neat, the Streets wide, and the Walks pleasant, by reason of Trees planted



planted on each side. It has the Title of a County, and its Bishop one of the Twelve ancient Dukes and Peers of France, is Suffragan to the Archbishop of Rheims. The Cathedral of St. Stephen is both great and well built, as are likewise its twelve Parochial Churches and three Abbies. All this, with the Fertility of its Plains, the Cheapness of Provisions, and Civility of the Inhabitants, makes the Town much frequented: They that delight in Whiteness, shall find here, besides the Houses, several Towers in form of Pyramids, and the very Walls all of that Colour. This Town is divided into three Parts, called, the City, the Isle, and the Borough, and has a Generality of Treasurers, and a *Presidial*. It was near this City that *Morice* and *Aetius*, General of the Romans, overcame *Attila*, King of the *Huns*, in 451. and gave a total Overthrow to his Army, whereof 90000 were killed on the Spot. Others affirm, that this happened in *Campis Secalaunicis* at *Solougne*, near *Orleans*. However *Chalons* is a very ancient Town, since in the time of *Julian* the Apostate, it was already considerable.

**Troyes.**



## Troyes.

SOME Authors affirm, that this Town, which is a Bishoprick, under the Metropolitan of Sens, and Capital of all Champagne, was built upon the Seine after the Destruction of the ancient Troy; but without having recourse to Fables, sure it is, that Troyes is of great Antiquity, and known to the ancient Historians and Geographers under the Names of *Treca*, *Tricassus*, *Tricassium*, *Augusta Tricassinorum* and *Augustobona*. Its advantageous Situation, with the Strength of its Walls, and Courage of the Inhabitants, very well train'd up to Arms, renders it capable of maintaining a long Siege. It has a very fine Palace, pretty good Buildings, two Collegial and six Parochial Churches, besides the Abby of *S. Loup*, and of the Nuns of *S. Bernard*, called our Lady of the Meadows, *Nôtre-dame des Prez*, and the Cathedral of *St. Stephen*, which has forty Canons. Here they make a shew of many fine Rarities, as some of our Saviour's Hair, a Piece of the true Cross, a Dish used in his last Supper, one of *St. John's* Fingers, one of *St. Peter's* Teeth, the Body of *St. Helena*, &c. not forgetting the Tomb of one of the Counts of Champagne. Its Baylwick and Presidial have a large Jurisdiction, and the last consists of eight Counsellors and a Register.

Mony



Money is coyn'd in this Town. It's thought St. *Amateur* was the first that Preached the Gospel to its Inhabitants. *Troyes* was ruined by the *Normans* in the ninth Century, but since repaired by Count *Robert*. The place is pleasant enough, and Provisions cheap.

### 3. Senonnois.

ON the South-West of *Troyes* is the Country of *Sens*, whose Archbishop is one of the Pretenders to the Primacy of *Gaul* and *Germany*. This City, which the *Latins* call'd *Senones* and *Agendicum Senonum* is very ancient; and if not ancients than *Rome*, as some pretend, at least 'tis sure that its Inhabitants were famous long before the coming of our Saviour: for they sent Colonies into *Greece* and *Italy*, where they took *Rome*, and built *Sienna* and *Senigaglia*, that retain yet somewhat of their Founders Name. Under the Second Race of the French Kings, some Lords erected *Sens* into a Sovereign County, till King *Robert* made himself Master of it, in 1005. The Town is large, well built, and washed with two Rivers, *Venne* and *Yonne*, that mix their Waters here. The Cathedral of St. *Stephen* is a sumptuous Building, adorned with two great Towers. At the foot of the principal Altar is a Golden Table, enrich'd with precious Stones; upon it are engrav'd in *basso relievo* the four Evangelists,



gelifts, with a *St. Stephen* on his knees in the middle of 'em. The Chapter has nine Dignitaries, a Dean, five Archdeacons, a Precentor, a Treasurer and a Purveyor; and in the whole Diocese are reckoned above 900 Parishes, besides 25 Abbeyes. The Bishops of *Paris*, *Chartres*, *Meaux*, and *Orleans*, depended upon this Prelate, before the first was made a Metropolitan; but now it has no more than *Troyes*, *Auxerre* and *Noyon* for Suffragans. *Sens* has a Presidial and a Baylwick, which is one of the four Ancient of the Kingdom, and the Country depending upon it is 16 or 17 Leagues in length, and 8 in breadth. There are several walled Towns and Boroughs, as *Pont sur Yonne*, *Joigny*, that has the Title of County, *St. Florentin*, *Tonnerre*, *Chablis*, a County between which and *Fontenay*, was given a famous Battle among the Sons of *Lewis the Meek*; besides several places of lesser Note, as *Ville-Neuve-l'Archevêque*, *Ville-Neuve le Roy*, *S. Julien du Saut*, *Clerny*, *la Ferté Loupiere*, *Aillant*, *Brignon*, &c.

#### 4. Langres.

SOME put this Town in *Bassigni*, and others account *Chaumont* for the Capital of it. I shall here follow the last, in order to make a particular Description of this ancient City, called by the Latins *Lingone*, and *Andomadium*, *Lingonum*, and famous ever since the



the Irruption of *Sigovese* and *Bellovese* into *Italy*, that is, since 3464 of the World, or 164 of *Rome*. *Langres* is seated upon a Mountain near the source of the *Marne*, and its Territory, which is not far from *Burgundy*, is accounted the highest of *France*, because five or six Rivers spring out of it. The *Vandals* wasted this City, and put *St. Didier*, its Bishop, to death, in 704 ; but since it was so well repaired, that in the 12th Century *Peter the Venerable* calls it, *the Noble, the Great, and the Renowned* : and therefore its Bishops were not forgotten in the Institution of the ancient Dukes and Peers of *France*. The Cathedral is dedicated to *St. Mammez Martyr* ; but *St. Savinian* was its first Bishop, for ought we know, about the end of the fourth Age.

### 5. Of *Bassigni*, *Vallage*, and *Perthois*.

THE Country of *Bassigni* is included betwixt that of *Langres* and *Vallage* on the South and North, the *Dutchy* and *County of Burgundy* on the West and East. *Vallage* has *Bassigni* on the South, the *Precinct of Troyes* on the East and North-East, *Lorrain* on the East, *Barrois* and *Rhemois* on the North. *Perthois* has *Vallage* on the South, the *Dutchy of Bar* on the East, the Territory



ry of Rheims on the North, and that of Troyes on the West. Chaumont is the Capital of Bassigni, and is situated upon a Hill near the Marne, between Langres and Chalons. It has a very strong Castle built upon a Rock, with a Tower called the Donjon.

There are likewise Montigni, Gæssi, Nogent-le Roy, Bourbonne-les-Bains, Montecclar, Andelot, Bismay, Choyscul, Clermont, with several others, that have strong Castles for their Defence. Vallage for its chief Towns has Vassi and Joinville, erected into a Principality by King Henry II. for the youngest Sons of the House of Guise, an. 1552. It is situated upon the Marne. The other Towns of Vallage, are Brienne County, Vignoris, Montirandel, Donlevand, le Chasteau aux Forges, Esclairon, Bar upon the River Aube, which is renowned for its excellent Wines, and had formerly its particular Counts.

The Country of Perthois has Vitri le François, fortified the modern way, for its Capital. It was built by King Francis I. whose Name it bears, in the Neighbourhood of Vitri le brûlé, that was in former times a considerable Castle. The other less considerable Towns are, Argilliers, Larzicourt, Louvemain, St. Dizier, a strong Town on the Frontiers of Barrois, Sermaize, &c.



## 6. The Country of Brie, and more especially Brie Champenoise.

**T**His Country is included between the *Marne*, the *Seine*, and the Diocese of *Chalons*, and is extended about 10 or 12 Leagues in length and breadth. It's fertil in Fruits, Meadows, Corn and Wines that are delicate near *Château-Thierry*, but more rough about *Meaux*. Brie is divided into *French Brie*, depending upon the Government of the *Isle of France*; and *Champaigne's Brie*: divided again into *Upper*, *Lower* and *Louzy Brie*, or the *Land of Glandevesse*, wherein are the Boroughs of *Gandelu*, *Montmort*, *Tresmes*, *Orbay*, &c. The whole Province has *MEAUX* for its Capital, whose situation upon the *Maine* is very pleasant, and its Disposition or Order no less, being divided in two by a little River that runs through and separates the Town quite from the Market, called otherwise the Fort. It's so considerable, that it deserv'd a Bishoprick, Bailwick, and Election. Its Cathedral, is dedicated to *St. Stephen*. Besides that, there is the Collegiate Church of *St. Sanctin*, first Bishop of *Meaux*, the Abbey of *St. Faron*, belonging to the Benedictins of *St. Maur*, and several Parochial Churches and Monasteries, both in the Town and the three Suburbs. *Meaux* had



had formerly its particular Counts, whose Country was united to the Crown with the rest of *Champaign*. During the Imprisonment of King *John*, the Dauphin *Charles V.* his Son, fell at variance with the *Parisians*, and retired to *Meaux*, thence to *Sens*. The *Parisians* would make use of the occasion, to seize upon this Key of the *Marne*, and sent some Troops thither under the Conduct of a Grocer : but notwithstanding the Treason of the Mayor, who opened them the Gates, they could not master the Market ; and *Gaston-Phebus*, Count of *Foix*, cut them into pieces, then ransack'd and burnt the Town. However, it was in few years so well repair'd, that it maintained a Siege of three months against the *English*, who at last took it upon *Charles VII.* then only Dauphin of *France*, in 1421. *Meaux* was one of the first Cities of that Kingdom, wherein the Reformation was Preached ; for which *John le Clerc* and *James Pavanes* got the Crown of Martyrdom, the first being burnt at *Metz*, and the other at *Paris*, about the year 1525.

*CHATEAU-THIERRY* is eight or ten Leagues Eastwards of *Meaux*, upon the same River ; has the Title of a Dutchy, a Bailwick, a Presidial, Provostship and Election, and is accounted the Chief Town of *Upper Brie*. It's strong and pleasant by its situation, has a good Castle, and several Churches. The



Duke of Mayenne took it in the last Age for the League, at which time it was plundered by the Spaniards.

*MONCEAUX* is a Royal Castle and Pleasure house built upon the River *Ourg*, near its meeting with the *Marn*. It's adorned with Parks, Forests, Rivers, and Gardens that yield to none in the Kingdom for Beauty or Pleasure. Queen *Catherine of Medicis* begun, and *Henry IV.* finished it.

*PROVINS*, Capital of *Lower Brie*, and formerly of the whole Province, is situated upon the little River *Uuzie*. It has a Bailwick, and is renowned for its *Roses*, and the Conserve that is made of them. The other Towns and Boroughs of *Brie* are, *Nogent-l'Artaud*, *Vieux-Maisons*, *Crecy*, *Colommiers*, *la Ferté-Gaucher*, and *Sezanne*, all four upon the *Morin*; *Nogent sur Seyne*, which has a fine Bridge upon that River; *Montereau-faut Yonne*, so called because the *Yonne* fails there, and mixes with the *Seine*. It has a Bridge too, upon which *John Duke of Burgundy* was murdered by the Faction of *Orléance*, in 1419.



## C H A P. IV.

Of the *Isle of France*, and its  
Dependencies.

**I***SLE of France* is properly the Name of a small Country included between the Rivers *Seine*, *Oyse* and *Aysne*, *Picardy*, *Brie*, and the Territory of *Rheims*; but to make of it a Government somewhat suitable to the bigness of the Capital of so great a Kingdom, part of the adjacent Countries have been taken from them, and added to this *Peninsula*, viz. out of *Champaign*, part of *Brie*, betwixt the *Marne*, the *Seine*, and the small River *Yere*, with the Towns of *Lagny*, *Ville-neuve-S. George*, *Brie-Comte-Robert*, built by the first Count of *Champaign*, which has yet a Seat of Justice resorting to the *Châtellet* of *Paris*; and *Rosoy*. Out of *Beausse*, have been taken three Countries, namely, *Hurepoix*, on the South of the *Seine*, with the Towns of *Corbeil*, *Melun*, *La Ferté-Alais*, and *Fontaine-bleau*. The French *Gastinois*, Southwards of *Hurepoix*, has the Dutchy of *Nemours*, the Counties of *Rochfort* and *Moret*, and the Towns of *Montlebery*, *Dourdan* and *Courtenay*. The *Mantois*, westwards of *Paris*, contains *Mante*, *S. Germain*, *Poissy*, *Meulan* and *Montfort-L'Amaury*. The French *Vexin* lies North-west of the *Oyse* and *Seine*, is separated from the Norman *Vexin* by the



River *Epte*, and has the Towns of *Pontoyse*, *Magpy* and *Chaumont*. From *Picardy*, five Countries or Diocesses have been separated, viz. *Beauvaisis*, about the River *Terrain*, containing the Bishoprick of *Beauvais*, and the Towns of *Clermont*, *Gerberoy* and *Merlou*. The Dutchy of *Valois*, has *Crespy*, *Sentis*, *Compiègne*, *La Ferté-Milon*, *Pont S. Maixence*, and *Villers-Cotterets*, and is included between the *Oise* and *Marne*. The Territory of *Soissons* lies about the *Aysne*, and contains *Soissons*, *Braisne* and *Vesly*. The *Laonnois*, which lies on the North of that River, has *Laon*, *Coucy*, *Neuf Châtel*, and *Notre-Dame de Lesse*. Beyond the River *Oise*, is the Territory of *Noyon*, with the Town of *Chauny*. However, all these small Parcels taken together, do hardly make an Extent of Ninety Miles East and West, from *Neuf-Châtel* upon the *Aisne*, to *Gisors* in *Normandy*, and about as many North and South from *Ham* in *Picardy*, to *Courtenay* in *Gastinois*.

The *Ile of France*, in the stricter Sense, is also called *Paris* by some, and has the City of *Paris*, and the Towns of *St. Denis*, *Montmorency* and *Dammartin*; but considered as a Government, it has *Picardy* on the North, *Champaign* and *Brie* on the West, the *Orleanois* on the South, and *Normandy* on the West. The Country brings forth excellent Wheat, Wine indifferent good, abun-



abundance of Fruits, and Game, both in its Plains and Woods. This, with the Conveniency of many Rivers, and the Neighbourhood of the Capital, has made it extraordinary Peopled, and filled with Royal and Pleasure-Houses, some of which I shall set down hereafter.

As to its Rivers, besides the Seine, the Marne, and the Aisne, which have already been described, you have the Oyse, which comes from Picardy, on the Frontiers of Haynault and Luxemburg, washes Guise and Noyon, receives the Serre, the Dellette, and the Mas, mixes with the Aisne at Compiègne, then increased with the Waters of the Aronde, Ottenette, Bresche, Terrain, Nonnette, Aise, and going by Pont S. Maixence, Creil, Beaumont, L'Isle-Adam, falls into the Seine under Pontoise, about Thirteen Miles off Paris: Besides several small Rivers which discharge themselves into the Seine on the West Side, as the Bievre in the Suburbs of Paris; the Orge, which comes from Montlebery, and washes Long-Fumeau, Juvisy, and Savigny, and the Juyne, which comes from about Estampes, passes by Dourdan, and falls into the same River at Corbeil.



## 1. Paris.

**P**ARIS, Capital of the Isle and Kingdom of France, is one of the biggest, richest, and most Beautiful Cities in Europe. Its Houses very high, well built, and as well inhabited : Its Streets and Places large and regular, its Churches magnificent, its Palaces, and especially the *Louvre*, great and sumptuous ; its Colledges , Universities, Bridges, Hospitals, Abbies, Churches and Monasteries worthy to be seen.

There are Forty four Parishes : Its Cathedral *Notre-Dame*, or Our Lady's Church, though it be built upon Piles, is extraordinary high, Sixty Paces wide, and an Hundred seventy four long, and is said to include Forty five small Chappels. The Frontispiece has the Figures of the Thirty eight Kings that have reigned between *Childebert* and *Philip Auguste*, and the two Towers that serve as Belfreys, are Three hundred eighty nine Steps high, and have Eight great Bells, whereof the biggest requires Twenty Men to ring it, and is heard Seven or Eight Leagues of. There is a Crucifix over the greatest Door of the Quire, all of one piece, with the Feet forming an *Arch*, that is a Masterpiece in that Kind. The Quire, the Chappel and Body of the Church, are adorned with rich Paint-



Paintings, fine gilt Cornishes, and other Ornaments.

It has Eight Dignitaries, a Dean, a Singer, Three Arch-Deacons, an Under-Singer, a Chancellor, and a Penitentiary. Sixty nine Canons, six Grand Vicars, Two Rectors of *St. John the Round*, Two Vicars of *St. Aignan*, Twelve Singing Boys, besides the Clerks or *Matines* of Morning-Service, and an Hundred and forty Chapplains.

The *Sainte-Chapelle*, or Holy Chappel, is another fine Building: It consists of two Chap-pels, both supported by such small Pillars, that it's thought very strange they can bear such a great weight as their Disposition and Order makes them do. The Canons here have the same Priviledges with them of our Lady, and depend immediately on the See of *Rome*, but the French King has the Nomination of them all. It's called *Sainte Chapelle*, by reason of the great Number of Reliques laid up therein; amongst the rest, they make a Shew of part of our Saviour's Crown of Thorns, some of the Nails that stuck him to the Cross, with some part of the Wood, &c. Near this is the Place that *Philip* the Fair built to keep Parliaments in: This Place is considerable for its Bigness and Beauty, but more for its great Hall for Hearing, or Audiences, very beautiful and rich. That of the Attorneys, is very spacious, and was formerly adorned with



all the Kings Statues done to the Life, besides the Marble-Table, esteemed one of the most curious Pieces of all Europe ; its Galleries and Avenues well stock'd with rich Shops, furnished with all manner of Merchandize.

Monasteries are here almost numberless : The most considerable are these that follow, 1. That of the Templers, inclosed with a good Wall, has a great square Tower, a fine Church with curious Chappels, and Lodgings for a King ; a Place so considerable, that part of the Town still retains the Name of *Marets-du-Temple*, though this ancient Order was abolished by Pope Clement V. under Philip the Fair, in 1309. The Abby of St. Germain deserves the second Place, great in all things, and Head of its Suburb, where the Abbots Officers exercise Justice. 3. The Convent of the Canon Regulars of St. *Augustin*, in the Suburbs of St. *Victor*, built by Lewis the Burly. Those of *Sainte Geneniefue*, Franciscans, Dominicans, Augustins, Celestins, Cartusians, Feuillans, Jesuits, *Les Filles-de-dieu*, *Val de grace* ; especially these last are curious Buildings. The Church-Yard of St. *John* in *Greve*, and of St. *Innocents*, are the most remarkable of this Kind. Bodies are quite consumed in the last in the space of eight days.



The Parish Churches are not less magnificent, *St. Eustache* has at least 35 or 40000 Communicants. To *St. Nicholas des Champs*, or in the Fields, *St. James*, *St. Sulpice*, and *St. Saviour*, do likewise resort a great number of People.

Its Colledges are also very fair; especially those of *Du Plessis*, *Sorbonne*, and of *Master Gervais*, the First founded in 1322, and the Second in 1870. Nor is *Clairmont*, the Jesuits Colledge less considerable, either for its Building, or the Number and Quality of Students. It's also well worth while to visit *St. Lewis's Church*, built by these Fathers in *St. Antony's-Street*.

*Sorbonne* is but the first House, or Colledge of Divinity at *Paris*, though this Name be sometimes given to the whole University, founded by *Charlemaign* about the Year 791; but since increased and made more commendable by *Lewis VII.* and *Philip August*. It is divided into four Faculties, Divinity, Law, Physick, and Arts. This last is the most ancient, and composed of four Nations, *French*, *Picards*, *Normans* and *Germans*; Out of their Body is taken the Head of the University, called *Rector*, who, in publick Solemnities, immediately follows the Princes of the Blood, and at the King's Burial, walks by the Archbishop's Side. His Robe of Ceremony is a Purple Gown,



Gown, tyed up with a Girdle that has golden Hangings, and an old fashioned Purse, which denotes his Priority and Power over all the Pursers of the University. He also wears a short Purple Mantle, lined with an Ermine-Skin, and has a Tribunal composed of the three Deans in Divinity, Law and Physick, and of the four Attorneys of the four Nations. A new *Rector* may be elected every three Months, but he that is in Office is often continued, and has such an Authority upon all the Faculties, that he may cause all publick Acts to cease, and four times in the year, at his Procession Day, actually forbids all Preachers to ascend the Pulpit.

As to the House of *Sorbonne*, it's very ancient, being founded by *Robert Sorbonn*, *St. Lewis's* Almoner, in 1252, or 1253. This Colledge is one of the most rigorous of Europe, none being admitted to the Degree of Batchelor, unless he studies three years in Divinity in it; after he has been received Master of Arts, and sustains nine or ten publick *Theses*. Neither is the Degree of Doctor given to any, without going through the *Sorbonique Act*, that holds from Sun-rise to Sun-set; the Candidate answering all that time to such as come to dispute against him. The Dean of the Faculty is committed to oversee these *Theses*, and each Doctor that Disputes is to have a Crown from the Answerer,



Answerer, who must satisfy all their Arguments without any body's Help; so that he ought to be an able Scholar, and have a strong Purse too. Those that are admitted that way, take the Title of *Doctors of the House and Society of Sorbonne*; but the others, that only of *Divinity's Doctor* in the Faculty of *Paris*. As for the Building, it's enough to observe, that Cardinal *Richelieu* has taken care to make it one of the most sumptuous of *Paris*, in enriched it with vast Revenues, and a good Library.

The second House after *Sorbonne*, is that of *Navarre*, founded by *Jane*, Queen of *Navarre*, Sovereign Countess of *Champaign*, and Wife to *Philip* the Fair, King of *France*. Humane Learning, Philosophy and Divinity are taught in this House, which has the Privilege of making Doctors as well as *Sorbonne*.

There are a great many other considerable Colledges, founded by Kings, Princes, Popes, &c. which I pass by, to speak of that called of *The Four Nations*, founded by Cardinal *Mazarin*, and built over against the *Louvre*. His Design in this sumptuous Building is said to have been to encourage Strangers to come to this Capital of the Kingdom, to make them have an Esteem and Love for *France*, use themselves to its Ways, and learn its Fashions. Of these four Nations are kept Sixty Gentlemen,  
Fifteen



Fifteen from *Pignerol*, for *Italy*; Fifteen from *Elzas*, for *Germany*; Twenty *Flewings*, and Ten *Spaniards* from *Roussillon*.

The *Hotel-dieu*, or Hospital destined for the Poor, is also very ancient, being built since the Year 660, and well worth the seeing. It's very spacious, and kept very clean, considering the vast number of Sick always attended there by religious Women, that make their Vows in the Hands of the Dean of our Lady-Church. Behind the House of these Ladies, is a Statue of Stone, which most People believe to be that of *Esculapius*.

The Hospital of the *Quinze Vints*, or Twenty Score, founded by *St. Lewis*, in Memory of the Three hundred Christians, that had their Eyes put out by the *Saracens*, ought not to be forgotten. That of *St. Lewis*, founded by *Henry IV.* for those that should be sick of the *Plague*, is renowned for its Building, Courts, Offices and Fountains. That of *La Charité*, kept and served by *Fryars* of that Name, is very neat, and the People well attended. Besides these, there is the *Incurable*, and 25 other Houses for the Sick and Poor.

The great and little *Chastelets* are the two ancientest Buildings in that City, said to be built by *Cesar*, or at least by *Julian the Apostate*, who called *Paris*, his Delight and well beloved Town; now they are Prisons  
of



of the Civil Lieutenant and Presidial, that keep their Courts there. The Palace of *Cluni*, in the *Maturins* Street, where the Pope's Nuncio's generally Lodge, deserves to be seen. It was formerly *Julian* the Apostate's Baths, and the Water was convey'd thither by Aquæducts, from the little Village of *Arcueil* near *Paris*, as may still be seen by some Remains of the Ruines.

The *Bastille* is a very strong Castle, built above the Gate of *St. Anthony*. Its Form is square, with four great Towers that defend it of every side; its Ditch very deep, and other Fortifications as regular. Here Persons of Quality, suspected of Crimes against the State are imprisoned, and there is a Governour to take care of it.

The *Arsenal*, built just by the River, is a great Building with store of Arms, fine Gardens, and curious Sets of Elm-Trees; the Great Master of the Ordnance has his Apartment, and keeps his ordinary Residence there.

The Town-House built by *Francis I.* was new built by *Henry the Great*; the Front is extraordinary well worked, the Chambers spacious, the Pavilions uniform, and the Pillars and Clock-Tower magnificent. Its Revenues are so great, that the King very often orders Payments of vast Sums thence. They must be able Men that are  
receiv



received Sheriffs here, and sometimes the whole Court move to have the Man they like, chosen Lord Mayor or *Provost* of Merchants, because the Place is of such consequence, and he that has it has so much Authority over the People,, that he may raise them against whom he pleases. The Government of the Town is in his and the four Sheriffs Hands, who stand but two years in their Office. Besides these, there are twenty six Councillors, and ten Sergeants that serve the Provost and his Sheriffs with sixteen Quaterniers and their Commissaries, and other under Officers, to hinder any Disorder or Tumult ; an hundred and twenty Archers or Watch-men, who with sixty *Arbalestiers*, or Cross-bow-men, an hundred *Arquebusiers*, or Small-shot-men, the Foot and Horse Watch, go the Rounds every Night, commanded by the Captain of the Watch, called the Knight of the Watch, *Le Chevalier du guet*. The Town's Attorney takes the Title of King's Attorney. The Company of Wine-Cryers, to the Number of twenty four, are imploy'd in Funerals, and twenty four Salt-Porters, that carry the King's Bodies, are a sort of other Officers of this Town, where the Provost of Merchants and Sheriffs are allowed Noblemen, and Knighted after two years Employment.



As for the Justice of *Paris*, there is the Provost, a Man of the short Gown, three Lieutenants, viz. the Civil, Criminal and Particular, and several Counsellors, who compose the Presidial, and keep Court in the Great Chastelet. The Judge and Consuls of Merchants drawn out of that Body, to the number of five, being sworn before the Parliament sit in St. Mederic's Cloister. As to the Parliament of *Paris*, called also the Court of Peers, because the Dukes and Peers of *France*, and the Officers of the Crown take their Oaths there, and cannot be judged elsewhere, especially for any Crime; at least according to Law; for Cardinal *Richelieu* passed by this formally, when he gave Commission to try the Marshall of *Marillac*, and afterwards the Duke of *Montmorency*, purposely perhaps to derogate the Parliaments Authority; and make the Monarchy more absolute. However, *Paris* has yet the first and noblest Parliament in the Kingdom, having been founded by *Pepin*, Head of the Second Stock of the French Kings in 755 or 756, and made sedentary by *Philip* the Fair, in 1302. The whole Governments of the *Ile of France*, *Picardy*, *Champaign*, *Orleannois* and *Lionnois*, and the Diocess of *Macon* depend upon it; and this Court only knows of the King's Regalia, Peerdoms and Portions given to the Royal Children. It's composed of eighteen Presidents, and



and an hundred sixty nine Counsellors, and divided into eight Chambers. The great Chamber has seven Presidents, besides the first, and twenty nine Counsellors. Dukes and Peers, and Counsellors of Honour, may sit and vote there, as well as the Archbishop of *Paris*, since his Church was erected into a Duchy and Peerdom in 1674. and the Abbot of *St. Denis* in quality of Counsellor of Honour. The King's Masters of Requests have the same Priviledge; but four only of them may sit there at one time. The five following Chambers, are called *Chambres des Enquêtes*, or *Inquiries*, and have each two Presidents, and twenty eight Counsellors. The two last Chambers bear the Name of *Tournelle*, because they have no proper Magistrates, but are filled up by turns with those of the other Chambers. Thus the Criminal *Tournelle* has four Presidents, and eighteen Counsellors of the Great Chamber, and ten of the Inquiries; and the Civil *Tournelle* has four Presidents, and six Counsellors of the Great Chamber, and twenty of the others. In 1587, King *Henry IV.* had established a *Chamber of the Edict* in that Parliament, on behalf of his Protestant Subjects, and bestowed the Dignity of Counsellor on six of their Men; but this commendable and impartial Institution was suppressed by the present King in 1667. During the great Vacations, beginning on the



the 7th. of *September*, and ending at the 12th. of *November*, there is a Chamber established to make an end of Suits that cannot be deferred.

Besides these, there are several other Courts, as the Court of Accounts, fixed at *Paris* at the same time as the Parliament. The Court of *Aides*, erected by *Charles VI.* and increased with two other Chambers by *Henry II.* and *Lewis XIII.* The Court of the Mint: The Chamber of the Treasure, where the General Treasurers of *France* keep their Court. That of the Marshals of *France*, of the Admiral, of the Great Masters of Waters and Woods is kept at the Marble-Table. The Bailly of the Palace has his Chamber in the Great Hall; and the Great Council have theirs without the Palace, in the Cloister of *St. Germain L'Auxerrois*, &c. The Bishoprick of *Paris* was erected into an Archbishoprick, in 1622. and has for Suffragans, *Meaux*, *Chartres*, and *Orleans*.

The *Place Royal*, is one of the finest of the whole Town, both for the Symmetry and Magnificence of the Buildings, and for the Piazza's and Arches that environ it, with the cast Copper Statue of *Lewis XIII.* in the middle, on a Foot-stall of white Marble, with Inscriptions. Here stood formerly an *Hôtele*, or Palace called *des Tournelles*; but because *Henry II.* died there of  
the



the Wound he received in his Eye at a Turnament, *Catharine* of *Medicis* got that stately Building pulled down. *Carronsels* were kept in this Market in 1612, upon the Subject of the King's and his Sister's Marriage with the Infanta and Prince of *Spain*.

The *Louvre*, that was the ordinary Residence of the Kings of *France*, from *Lewis XII.* till *Lewis XIV.* was built by *Philip August* in 1214, to keep his Papers, and Noble Men Prisoners. It has been increased and beautified since *Francis I.* by most of his Successors. At present it comprehends the *Louvre*, properly so called, and the Palace of the *Tuilleries*, joyned together by one of the finest Galleries in Europe; the Building and Ornaments are considerable, the Depth of the Foundations being taken from the Heighth and Thickness of the Work, with Conveniency of Apartments and Offices. Its Form is rather long than square, and, 'tis said, this present King ordered a Piece of Tapistry to be made, that should reach from one end to the other, representing the chief Towns he has taken, and the Battels fought and gained by his Armies. There is another Monument of this Prince's Vanity and Pride, but I don't know whether it's finished: viz. His Brazen Statue on Horse-back upon a Rock, looking as unaccessible, as though nothing had been able to with-



withstand him. His Enemies are represented under his Feet, and amongst the rest, the pretended Hereticks, Rebels and Duelists. At the foot of the Rock, are the four principal Rivers which he is gone over; as the *Rhine*, the *Scheld*, the *Meuse*, and the *Moselle*.

The Royal Printing-House is in the Gallery of the *Louvre*, and the French Academy have Lodgings in this Palace. There is also a Place prepared for the King's Library and Closet of Rarities.

The Palace of *Orleanse* is a magnificent and regular Building, enriched with several fine Statues, and adorned with excellent Paintings, which, with its fine Gardens, Fountains, Grotto's and Water-works, makes it a very pleasant Place. The others are, that which *Mary of Medicis* built in the Suburb of *St. Germain*, and still has the Name of *Luxemburg*; those of *Bourbon*, *Navarre*, *Soissons*, *Angoulême*, *Longueville*, *Espernon*, *Maine*, *Montmorency*, *Bouillon*; but especially that of the Cardinal of *Richelieu*, whereof the Riches and Ornaments are surprising. Those of *Vendôme*, *Guise*, *Chevreuse*, *Nevers*, *Sulli* and *Schomberg*, are fit to lodge any Prince in. As for publick Places, these that follow are the chief, the *Place Royal*, which has been already mentioned; *St. John's Church-Yard*, the *Grève*, the *Vally of Misery*, the *Place Dauphine*, the *Parvis of Notre Dame*,



*Dame*, the New Market, and Place *aubert*.

A Market called *La Place des Victoires*, situated in that part of the Town which bears the Name of *Richelieu*, is become famous since the mad and blasphemous Flattery of the Duke of *La Fennillade*. In 1686, this Lord erected to the present King, a brazen Statue washed over with Gold, upon a Marble Foot-stall, underpropt by four Slaves, and adorned with cast Copper Trophies of embossed Work, representing the most memorable Events of that Reign. The Statue is properly a *Groupe*, or a Complication of three Figures; namely, of the King in his Royal Robes, of the Victory behind him, who puts a Crown on his Head, and of *Cerberus*, or the infernal Dog kick'd under the Feet of this Sham-conqueror; by the three Heads of which, they would signifie the triple Alliance of *England*, *Holland* and *Swede*; or perhaps the House of *Austria*. The Victory has one of her Feet on a Globe, the other in the Air, and with her two display'd Wings, seems ready to fly. There are besides, a *Hercules's Club*, a *Ly-on's Skin*, and a *Helmet*; so that the whole weighs above thirty thousand, though 'tis said that it was all made at one Cast. On the four Avenues, or Sides of the Market, are so many Marble-Columns, adorned with *Basso-Relievo's* of Brals, representing this Prince's Actions. Upon each of these Pillars,



*Pillars*, is a Lanthorn of gilded Brass, where-  
in Light is perpetually kept, to venerate  
this new Idol, which is sufficiently denoted  
by this Inscription amongst others, *Viro im-*  
*mortali*, to the immortal Man.

*Paris*, as to its Form is rather square than  
long, and divided into three Parts, the City,  
or ancient Town built in the Isle of the Pa-  
lace, formed by the *Seine* : The new Town,  
called *La Ville*, which is the Northern, or  
lowest part of *Paris* ; and the University,  
which is the highest. They were shut up  
with seventeen Gates, leading unto ten Sub-  
urbs, whereof that of *St. Germain* likes to  
be a goodly Town ; but some of their Gates  
have been demolished. These several Parts  
are joyned, and communicate together by  
ten Bridges, most of which are filled with  
Buildings.

*Paris* lies so convenient, that *Rouen* sup-  
plies it with what it has occasion of from  
other Countries, and the neighbouring Pro-  
vinces with all Home-Necessaries. Besides  
this, its Situation is so very advantagious,  
that there is no place in the Kingdom so fit  
for so great a City, or such a Court. The  
Houses generally are high and spacious, the  
Streets kept very clean, Fountains whole-  
some, and in great numbers. The Air mild  
and healthful, and Provisions cheap ; so that  
People may live there and spend much less  
than what is generally thought. Besides  
these,



these, there is another great Conveniency in that City, that Men may go any time of the Night about their Occasions, as safe as by Day ; because the Watch are so exact, that no Thieves or Rogues can scape ; there being Lanthorns very close, that give great Light, and Chains in every Street to be drawn up upon such Occasions. Physicians have the Liberty of the Royal Garden in the Suburbs of *St. Victor*, where they will find many rare Simples. The Learned can visit the Royal Library at the *Cordeliers* ; of *St. Victor*, in the Abby of that Name, well furnished with ancient and curious Manuscripts ; that of *Navarre*, but especially that of the President of *Thou* ; that is well looked after, and in good Order. Besides these, each Religious House, as poor as it is, has its own particular Library. I shall conclude this Article by mentioning *Val de Grace*, that sumptuous Monastery in the Suburbs of *St. James*, belonging to the Nuns of *St. Bennet's* Order, and built by the Queen Mother *Ann of Austria*. It's one of the finest Places of this great City, which a famous Poet has commended thus :

*Vrbs orbi similis, toto celeberrima mundo,  
Musarum sedes, Regina Lutetia salve,  
Francigenæ tu Metropolis pulcherrima Gentis ;  
Hospitio regum grato regis que ministros,  
Excipis & reliquas das jura suprema per urbes.*  
Towns



## Towns and Places of Note in the Paris, or the Territory of Paris.

ON the South Side of *Paris*, entring into the Deanship of *S. Cel*, is the Village of *Gentilly*, upon the River *Bievre*, or *des Gobelins*, where the Kings of the first and second Race kept their General States, and sometimes their Parliaments; but it was destroyed by the Normans, and is now only renowned for its many fine Gardens. At the top of this Village was the Royal Castle of *Winchester*, corruptly called *Bicestre*, because in the time of the English it belonged to *John* Bishop of *Winchester*. It has been oft ruined and rebuilt: King *Lewis XIII.* caused there an Hospital to be built for *Lame Souldiers*, who having been transfer'd into another Place, it was designed to shut up the *Beggars of Paris*.

On the South-West of the City, in the Casteln of *St. Maur*, are the Villages of *Isi*, where the Goddess *Isis* was adored; *Vanves*, which was heretofore inhabited by the Water-men of the River *Seine*, and is now renowned for its Fountains, Gardens and Meadows, that furnish *Paris* with Milk and Butter. *Arcueil*, formerly a Pleasure-House of the Romans, whence *Julian* the Apostate brought Water through Lead-Pipes



Pipes into his Palace, that was built where now is the House of Clugny.

Farther to the West, near the *Seine*, is the Village of *Meudon*, two Leagues from *Paris*, with a strong Castle built upon a Rock, in the middle of a pleasant Forest. There is a Grotto that affords Water in abundance, and is paved with Porphyry spotted with White, Red, Green, and several other Colours. The Chambers of this Castle, built by Cardinal *Sanguin* under *Charles IX.* are adorned with Marble Statues, fine Pictures of the first Roman Emperors, of *Aristotle*, *Cicero*, *Demosthenes*, &c. and upon one of the Chimneys, is a Marble that reflects the Rays of the Light as a Looking-Glass.

The Town of *S. Clou*, Head of a Castelnny, on the West of *Paris*, is situated upon the *Seine*, about two Leagues from the Capital. It was formerly a Village called *Nogent*, and has gotten its present Name from *Clouand* or *Cloud*, Son to *Clodonir* King of *Orleance*. This *Cloud*, for fear of his cruel Uncle *Clotaire* King of *Paris*, who had already murdered two of his Nephews, retired to *Nogent*, where he built a Monastery and ended his Life. There also died King *Henry III.* being stabb'd by *James Clement*, a Dominican Fryar. The present King's Brother has there a very fine House.



## Versailles.

**T**HIS Royal House, about four Leagues Westward of *Paris*, is become of late so considerable, that it deserves a particular Description. The present King began to build or beautifie it in 1661. It consists of the old Castle, built by this Prince's Father, of other Buildings of the same Symetry, which he has added for Lodgings, and of a very stately Pile of Buildings that environs it on the Garden Side. The House is built upon a little height in the middle of a Valley, encompassed with Hills, at the bottom of them; on *Paris* side begin three fine Walks, formed by four delicate Sets of Elm, the middle Alley being twenty Fathoms, and the two side ones ten each wide. These end at the great Royal Place, environed with very regular Pavilions, which the Princes and Lords of that Court have built there, and with the other Houses that form the new Town. This Royal Place is to have a Fountain in the middle, with such Walks as the former, in the other two Avenues towards it. Out of this Place you ascend into another, in form of a Half-moon; it makes part of the first Court, which from the beginning of the Half-moon, to the great Court of the Castle is eighty Fathoms in length, with four great Pavili-



ons at the four Corners to lodge several Officers in. The great Court is ~~cut~~ in with iron Ballistres, and two great Apartments that form the Wings, having each a Balcony opposite to it, supported with Pillars, and adorned with Statues. These, with their Pavilions, serve for Offices, and have Courts, with other separate Buildings behind them. There are other double Apartments that joyn these Wings, and make a Communication between the new and old Castle, and streightning the Top of the great Court, end with much Grace at the Little, which is the higher of the two.

As the French King has taken the Sun for his Devise, and that Poets confound it with *Apollo*, there is nothing in this great Building but has some Relation to that God. Therefore as the two Wings of the great Court are the Provision Offices; they that had the Care of the Work, have got the four Elements represented at the top of the Portiques of the Wings, because these strive, as it were, to furnish them with what is most exquisite for Mans Support; the Earth, with its Beasts, Fruits, Flowers and Liquors; the Water with its Fish; the Air with its Birds, and the Fire with its Help, to dress and make all ready. Each Element has three Figures or Statues; upon the four Balconies, that represent it as the Earth, *Ceres*, *Pomona* and *Flora*; the Water, *Neptune*, *Thetis* and



and *Galathea*; the Air, *Juno*, *Iris* and *Zephyre*; the Fire is represented by *Vulcan* and two Cyclops, *Stereus* and *Bronte*. Each of these Balconies has fifty foot in length, which is the breadth of each Pavilion. Out of this Court we ascend by three Steps into a large Resting-place, and thence, by five more, all Marble, into the little Court, which is paved with white and black Marble, with Streaks of white and red Marble, and has a Fountain Basin of white Marble in the middle, with gilt copper Statues. The Front and Wings are built of Brick and Free Stone, with Marble busts upon Pendants or Brackets of the same, for the greater Decoration. Before this Front is a Balcony supported by eight Marble Pillars, with red and white Spots like Jasper, after the *Dorique* Order, and their Chapters and Bases are of white Marble. In the two Angles of the Wings of the Front, are hanging Bottoms or Tromps, that bear two Cabinets, environed with gilt iron Cages and underneath are two Basins of white Marble, in form of great Shell-works, where young Tritons spout Water.

The middle Building has three gilt Iron-Doors, leading into the Vestibule or Porch that has two Apartments on the Right and Left.

The two Wings of the little Court, have two Stairs of white and red spotted Marble,



which lead to the upper Apartments ; that on the Right-hand, of one side to a Hall and Gallery, and of the other to several Chambers, that are the King's Apartment, separated from the Queen's by a great Hall that takes up the whole Body of the middle Building, and has three Doors to a Plot or Platform that faces the Garden. This is all paved with white, black and red Marble, with a Basin of white Marble in the middle, prepared to be a great Spout.

The great Castle, with the new Buildings that this present King has added to the old *Versailles*, go under the Name of *New-Castle*: They have a Sight on the Gardens and Courts that part them from the little Castle, to which they are joyned by great Stair-Cases, that communicate with the upper Apartments. The Building on the Right hand, and on the Grotto's side, is composed at the lower part of several Pieces of different bigness.

Coming out of the great Court, and having passed under an open Porch, you find a great Stair-case thirteen Fathoms and a half in length, and five in breadth. You may go into the great low Apartment, by a Fort that is beyond this Stair-case, or by an Arch that is at the bottom, and leads into a Porch which looks into the Garden, as all the other Pieces hereafter mentioned. Out of this Porch you enter consecutively into  
two



two painted Halls; the different Pieces of Architecture represented in the last, make the Place appear as environed with several Pillars diversly adorned, and far greater and higher than really it is. Out of this you come into that which seems as a Vestibule, when you enter by the Court into these Apartments; the Cieling is supported by eight Pillars of the Dorick Order, all fine Marble streaked red and white, brought from *Dinan* in the Country of *Liege*; the Chapters and Bases being of a greener, that is called little *Breche*. These Pillars are disposed into two parts, four on each side, that divide the Vestibule into three parts near the Wall, and over against the Pillars are Pilasters of the same Marble, that bear a Corniche which reigns all under the Plafond, and over against the Windows are hollow Standings to place Statues in. Next this Vestibule, is another Hall, whereof the Cornish that bears the Cieling is supported by twelve Pillars of the Ionique Order, with their Pilasters behind them. The four Pillars that are in the Angles with the twelve Pilasters, are of black and white Marble, and the eight other are of a Marble called *Breebe*, which comes from the Pyrenees, the Ground is white, with red, black, violet, blew and yellow Spots. The Chapters and Bases of the Pillars and Pilasters are of delicate white Marble. Out



of this you enter into another of the same bignels, whose Cieling is Octogone, with twelve double Pedestals a side of the Windows, and with Doors of fine Marble, having twelve Figures of young Men with Wings to their Backs, that represent the twelve Months of the Year. All these Figures are Copper gilt with Gold; the Pieces over the Doors, and those that go across in the Windows, are of the Marble of *Langue-dock*, Flame-coloured and White. On one side of this Hall, is the Chamber and Cabinet of the Baths. All the Pieces over the Doors and Windows, the Props, and generally all parts that have no Hanging, are laid with different Marble in equal Divisions, so that all seems solidly built therewith; and this Order is observed to make use of the rarest and most precious in the Places that lye highest to the King's Apartment, so that as you go out of one Chamber into another towards it, you will observe them more and more costly, both in Marble Sculpture and Paintings. This Order is also kept in the upper Apartments, for there are eight Chambers or Halls, all of a Flower, that have each their different Marble and Painting. The first, that is five Fathoms and a half long, and five wide, where it wants Hangings, is laid with equal Divisions of red, white, and a greenish Marble, called of *Campan*, which is brought from the *Pyrenées*, and with a white  
and



and black from some other Place. The second, the Guard-Hall, is done with Marble brought out of *Burgundy*, mixed with white, black, red and yellow Spots; the fourth has its Doors and Windows done with a green, brown and red Marble with green Spots and Veins, colour of *Emeraulds*: the Workmen call it green of *Egypt*, though its all drawn out of the *Pyrenees*; the Sides or Wainscots are of white Marble, filled up by Divisions of a reddish of *Egypt*, of a black and white, and a very fine of *Agathe*, brought from the *Alps*. The fifth is a Cabinet of the bigness of the Chamber, done with black Marble that has yellow Veins, is called *Portoro*, and is dug in the *Pyrenees*. The sixth is a little Chamber to lie in, done with Flame coloured Marble, that has white Veins, and is called red Marble of *Languedoc*. The seventh, a small Cabinet that joyns the great Platform, pay'd with the said Marble. The Window and Door-pieces are of a green and red Marble, with white Veins; the Sides or Wainscots of the same, of that of *Languedoc*, and the Marble called of *Egypt* by equal Divisions upon a white ground.

On the other side, towards the Orangery, are other Lodgings like the former; but the Staircase is not quite so big as the King's, because the Chappel takes up part of the Place. The Apartment underneath is the *Dolphin's*, and is adorned with fine different



Cielings. The Apartment above it, is the Queen's Lodgings, consisting of the same numbers with the King's, and laid with the same sort of Stones, but otherwise ordered. The Paintings that embellish the Cielings, represent the Actions of the Hero's of Antiquity, with relation to the seven Planets.

Having thus far satisfied your Curiosity, you may go by the Porch that is against the middle of the little Court, and by the vaulted Galleries to the great Plot in the Garden, which lies against the whole Front of the Palace, and is an hundred Yards in length upon twelve in breadth. But before we enter farther into the Garden and little Park, this part of the Building towards the Water-Plot, and the two Sides of this great Castle, deserve to be considered, as well for the stately Greatness of the whole Mass, as for the Beauty and Workmanship of the Stones, and the choice Figures and Ornaments that embellish it.

The principal Focade or Front towards the Water-Plot, has three Balconies that shoot out, each supported with four Pillars, and a Figure upon every Pillar. These twelve Figures are the twelve Months: The Months of *March, April, May* and *June* are upon the Balcony of the Pavillion on the Right; *July, August, September* and *October* upon that of the middle of the Plot; and *November, December, January* and *February* upon



upon the Balcony of the Pavilion to the Left. In the imbossed Works that adorn this Front, at the Top are little Children imploy'd in the Exercises that suit each Month and Season.

The Balcony on the Side that looks towards the Flower-Pots, has four Figures that preside over them: As *Flora* their Goddess, *Zephyrus* her Sweetheart, that by its mild Breath makes them spring, *Hyacinth* the Sun's Favourite, and *Clytie* his Lover, that were both turned into Flowers. The imbossed Work all underneath these Figures, represent Children that look after the Garden, plant and cultivate the Flowers, and make Garlands of them.

Upon the Opposite Balcony, which is at the other Extremity, are four Figures that preside over the Fruits: As the Goddess *Pomona*, her Lover *Vertumnus*, one of the *Hesperides*, with an Orange-tree charged with golden Fruit guarded by the *Dragon*, and the Nymph *Amalthea*, that holds the Horn of Abundance. The embossed Work underneath are Children that plant Trees and gather Fruit.

On the Balcony in the middle that relates to Comedy, are four Figures that represent the Muse *Thalia*, presiding over Drammatick Poetry, *Momus* the God of Jests, *Terpsicore* another Muse, that pretends to serious Dance, and the God *Pan* Author of the Grotesque.



Grotesque. The imbossed Works over them, represent Children that are Marsked, dance and divert themselves. The several other ways that belong to Comedy : are represented on the Side of this Balcony, by two standing Figures, one of which is Musick, and the other Dancing. The four Figures upon the Balcony near the Grotto, are the Nymph Echo, that was changed into a Rock Narcissus, with whom she was in love, Thetis and Ga'athea, which represent the Water. The imbossed Works represents Children that play in the Water.

Upon the opposite Balcony, are the Figures of two Gods of Rivers, and two Nymphs of Fountains. In the imbossed Work Sea-Triumphs of all Kind.

Upon the middle Balcony are these four Figures, Ceres and Bacchus, Comus the God of Feasts and Mirth, and the Genius that presides over Joy, and the Pleasures of good Cheer. In the imbossed Work are Children that make merry and divert themselves on the Pendants or Key-stones; Heads of Silenes, Bacchantes and Satyrs, and on the Side of this Balcony, you may see the Figure of Ganimedes, and the Nymph Hebe, both imployed to serve the Gods with Drink.

After



After having considered the Castle, you may go into the Gardens, and in the little Park; but as there are a great Number of Objects that distract the Sight, on ever side you will find it good to observe this Order.

The First thing to be seen, is the Basin of Syrens.

2 The Grotto of *Thetis*.

3 Reservoirs.

4 The Basins of the Crown.

5 The Fountain of the Pyramid.

6 The Cascade or Water-fall.

7 The Water Alley.

8 The Dragon Fountain.

9 The Pavilion Fountain.

10 The Walk of the Water-Cradle.

11 The Marshes.

12 The Stage.

13 The Basin of *Ceres*.

14 The Water-Mountain.

15 The Basin of *Flora*.

16 The Banqueting-Hall.

17 The Basin of *Apollo*.

18 The Island.

19 The Basin of *Saturn*.

20 The *Bosquets*, or Groves.

21 The Basin of *Latona*.

22 The



## NO A Description of

22 The Basin of Bacchus.

23 The Labyrinth

This Labyrinth is a Place composed of many small Alleys, so mixed and interwoven one within the other, that it's hard to find the way out of them, and not easie to leave, so pleasant a Place: For the great Number of Fountains and Water-works have Subjects drawn out of Thirty eight ancient Fables: But as the Description of each would be tedious, so I will only name the Fables that are represented.

At the Entry or Going in, you will find Esops Figure; then that of Love.

1 Fable is that of the Horn-Owl, and other Birds.

2 The Cocks and Partridges.

3 The Cock and Fox.

4 The Cock and Diamond.

5 The Cat Hung and Rats.

6 The Eagle and Fox.

7 The Gey and Peacocks.

8 The Cock and Turkeycock

9 The Peacock and Pic.

10 The Dragon, Anvil and File.

11 The Monkey and its little ones.

12 The Fight of Beasts.

13 The Hen and Chickens.

14 The Fox and Crane.

15 The



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- 15 The Crane and Fox.
- 16 The Peacock and Nightingale.
- 17 The Parot and Monkey.
- 18 The Monkey Judge.
- 19 The Rat and Frog.
- 20 The Hare and Tortoise.
- 21 The Wolf and Crane.
- 22 The Kite and Birds.
- 23 The Monkey King.
- 24 The Fox and Buck.
- 25 The Council of Rats.
- 26 The Monkey and Cat.
- 27 The Fox and Relins.
- 28 The Eagle, Rabit, and Beetle.
- 29 The Wolf and Porcupine.
- 30 The Serpent with several Heads.
- 31 The Bath, the Cat, and Cockerel.
- 32 The Kite and Pigeons.
- 33 The Dolphin and Monkey.
- 34 The Fox and Crow.
- 35 The Monkey and Crane.
- 36 The Wolf and Head.
- 37 The Serpent and Porcupine.
- 38 The Ducks and young Water-Spaniel.

From the Labyrinth you may go to the Orangery, thence by the Flower-Garden to the Water-Plot that lies before the Castle; this consists of five great Pieces, and two other, which altogether form extraordinary Figures.

The



The little Park I have spoken of, is environed with another far greater, divided by a great many Walks, set with different Trees. The most remarkable thing in it, is the great Canal, which begins at the end of the little Park, over against the Royal Walk, and is about 200 foot from *Apollo's Basin*. It's 32 Fathoms wide, and 800 long, and at the Head thereof is a Plot of Water that is octogone, four of the sides drawn in a circular Line, three in a Right, and the other joyning it to the Canal. This Piece has sixty Fathoms diameter, of one side separates the little from the great Park, and at the other end joyns the Canal, which at the other Extremity has a Water-Plot 200 Fathoms long, and 100 wide, and is cross'd in the middle by one that is 200 foot wide, and of one side leads to *Trianon*, and of the other to the *Mesnagerie*, the Place where rare Fowls and Beasts, brought from foreign Parts are kept. In a great Court on the Left-hand, are the Stables, Sheep-Folds, &c. with all that belongs to a Base-court.

The little Palace has its Particular Court at the end of a great Walk set with Trees. The chief Lodging or Apartment is Octogone, consisting only of a Hall, with two little Pavilions before it. In the middle of it are Stairs that lead into the Vestibule, and thence into this Hall, which is environed with a Court of an Octogone Figure



too, with Iron Grates or Rails that part it from seven other Courts. This Hall has also round Balconies, whence one may look into these Courts, which are all full of fine and curious Birds, and of an incredible number of foreign wild Beasts of every Kind. I must not forget, that since the present King has chosen *Versailles* for his ordinary Residence, several private Men have built there Houses, so that it is become a pretty good Brough.

### Créanon.

THIS House, opposite to the former, on the other side of the Canal, and at the Right-hand, as you go from *Versailles* to *Paris*, is a very fine Piece of Building. The outward Front is 64 fathoms, sinking in form of a half Oval; in the middle of which is the principal Door all of Iron, with two Ballisters at the sides that joyn to small Pavilions, and close the Entry. By this Door you enter into a Court that is almost oval, only squared to the Right and Left by two Buildings, separated from that in the Middle, whereof one serves the Lords, and the other the Warden of the Castle.

These Buildings are each twelve Fathoms square, with their separate Courts and other Pavilions that form the Corners of the whole Front of this House. They that go to see this Castle, enter generally by the *Conciery*  
or



or Governour's Court, and thence into the great Oval; for this, besides the principal Entry, has four other Iron Doors to it, whereof two open into the side Courts, between the great Door and great Pavilions, and the other two into the Garden between the same Pavilions and the principal Building. This Court is above an Hundred foot in length, and Seventy five wide, the Castle fronts it, and is fourteen Fathoms long, and seven broad, with a Ballister charged with a great many Pors, joyned or mortised at the top, and adorned at the bottom with young Cupids armed with Darts and Arrows. Over these are Porcelaine-Vessels, disposed by degrees to the very top of the House, with Birds represented to the Life; and the Pavilions that belong to the chief Building, are adorned the same way. There is also another little Palace to pass some days in, during the Heat of Summer. This has but one Story; the Walls of the Hall, that has but seven Steps up to it, is covered with White, and polished, stuck with Ornaments of Azure; the Cornish and Cieling are also adorned with divers Figures of Azure upon White, the whole worked after the China's way; the Floor, Wainscot and Cieling are the same, being all Porcelain.

All these Places look, and have Doors into a Plot over against the Chambers, where are Spouts that throw up Water out of four Basins,



ins, built upon Pedestals. Out of this Plot you go down into another Garden that is always well stocked with Flowers.

### Other Towns, Royal Houses, and Places of Note in the **PARIS**.

**R**epassing the *Seine*, you find, a League westwards of *Paris*, the Royal Castle of *Madrid*, built near a pleasant Wood by *Francis I.* upon the Pattern of the *Escurial*, or the Palace of the King of *Spain*. It was designed for a very fine House, but the French Kings having since delighted in other places, and little care being taken of it, it decays every day. There is still to be seen a Window, representing that where the *Spaniards* shewed King *Francis I.* to the People before *Madrid*.

Two Leagues higher, on the Southwest, is a Village called *Aubert de Villiers*, with the famous Church of *Nôtre Dame des Vertus*, or our Lady of Vertues.

Descending to the North, towards *Paris*, you find, a little Mile off it, the Village of *Montmartre*, called in Latin, *Mons Martyrum*, because, as 'tis pretended, *St. Denis* and his Companions were beheaded there, before the Idol of *Mercury*. And therefore when Christianity had got the better of *Paganism*, a Chappel, and afterwards an Abby



Abby of the Nuns of *St. Bennet*, were built on that Mountain.

On the Northwest of *Montmartre*, is the Village of *Clichy*, where formerly was a Royal House called the *Palace of Clichy*, then the *Hostel of St. Ouen* beyond *Paris*. There King *John* instituted the Order of the Knights of the Star, as *du Haillan* relates; or rather he renewed it, and settled the Knights in that House, as *Favin* will have it, who asserts that it was instituted by King *Robert*, Son to *Hugh Capet*. The Knighthood's Badge was a golden Collar, with three Chains interwoven with gold Roses, white and red enameled. They wore, besides a Mantle of white Damask, a short Mantle, with Lining of incarnate Damask, and a Coat of the same Stuff. However, this Order, so honourable and glorious at the beginning, became in process of time too common, and being despised by Princes and Lords, fell to the share of the Knight of the Watch and his Comrades. From the top of this Mountain one may have a full sight of *Paris*.

*Vincennes*, commonly called *Le bois de Vincennes*, is a strong Castle in a Wood not quite a League off *Paris*; towards the East, it's surrounded with a good Ditch, and eight great square Towers for its Defence. *Philip August* raised up a Wall about the Wood in 1185. *Philip of Valois* began the  
Tower



Tower or Castle in 1337, which *K. John* and *Charles V.* ended. *Q. Mary of Medicis* begun the Gallery that is on the side of *Paris* in 1614, and *Lewis XIV.* added new Buildings to it. Its Court is spacious and fair, a side of it is the Holy and Royal Chappel, dedicated to the Blessed Trinity by *King Charles V.* in 1379. Here are also the Chains of the Streets of *Paris*, sent thither by *Charles VI.* to punish that City's Rebellion. This Place is so very pleasant by its fine Walks in the Woods about it, that several Kings have chosen it to end their Lives in, as *Philip the Fair*, *Lewis Hutin*, or the Proud, and *Charles the Handsome*. Farther into the Woods, is a Convent of *Minims*, turnamed *Les bons Hommes*, which is one of the pleasantest Monasteries that can be seen. As for the Castle, the Inside is every whit as magnificent as what appears without. The Princes of the Blood, who were taken in the beginning of the last Troubles of *France* were confined here, as had been several others before them. *Cardinal Mazarin* dy'd at *Vincennes* in 1661.

There is still seen an Oak, under which *King Lewis IX.* was wont to render Justice; for though he went to *Vincennes*, as to a retir'd Place; however, that the least Absence should not prove hurtful to the poorest of his Subjects; at certain hours of the day he sat at a Table covered with a Carpet,



pet, and ordered his Ushers and Heraulds to cry out, whether there was any that wanted Justice. Thence apparently comes the French Proverb, *Mettre une chose sur le Tapis*, To put a thing upon the Carpet, for to propound a Business.

St. Maur is a Castle built upon a Height, joyning a pleasant Forest near the Marne, about three Miles off Paris; but its imperfect, because Francis I. that begun that Building, had not time to finish it; yet its considerable for several Rarities, as Francis the First's Head very well worked in Copper; his Devise, a Salamander environed with Lillies, and these Words, *Non deflorebitur isto Præsidio & istis ducibus*. Henry IV. gave this House to the Prince of Condé.

Returning to Paris, along the Marne, you find, a League from that City, the Village of Charenton, which by some old Ruines, seems to have been formerly a strong and considerable Town. Between this and the Palace of Conflans, was an admirable Echo, which repeated Words to ten times, with such a Noise and quickness, as tho' they had been as many Canon-Shots

It's great pity that the Cloyster which the Carmelites have built there upon the Ruines of a Church, have deprived the World of so great a Wonder. Some years ago, Charenton was yet more famous for the Temple the Protestants of Paris had there, to which have at one time or other belonged so many great



great and learned Men, as *Aubertin, Du Moulin, Mestrezat, Daille, le Faucheur, Drelincourt, Gache, Claude*. I supersede to name two late Ministers, one of which was accounted one of the learnedest Men in France, and the other one of the Eloquentest, because they are both living, and in England.

The Palace of *Constans*, where *Fane, Queen of Navarre* dy'd in 1349, belongs now to the House of *Villeroy*. The most considerable part of it is a vaulted Gallery, enriched with a great many Pictures drawn to the Life, as two Sibylles, three Roman Emperors, four Popes, several Sultans and great Commanders, especially the famous *Scanderbeg* or *Castriot*. Several Learned Men, as *Seneca, Scot, Thomas Aquinas, Platina, Guicciardini, &c.* The Kings of *England, of Navarre*: The Dukes of *Savoy*, and of *Lorraine*; the Families of *Valois, Bourbon* and *Nassau*, all set in gilt Frames, and brought from *Italy*, and 21 among the rest out of the House of *Medici*.

Three or four Leagues East of *Paris*, is the Village of *Chelles*, with a Church founded by *Queen Clotilde*, Wife to *Clotus the Great*, and since repaired and erected into an Abby of Nuns by *Queen Baudour*, Wife to *Clotus II*. Their Son *Clotaire*, King of *France*, was interred in that Abby in 686, and King *Robert* had a Palace in the Village.

Higher



Higher up to the North, four Leagues from *Paris*, is the Borough of *Gonnesse*, renowned for its Bread, and *Francis* the First's Answer to *Charles* the Fifth's Letter, stuffed with ample Titles; for he writ nothing else but *Francis King of France, of France*, and so to the end of the Page, where he put these Words, *Lord of Vanves, and Gonnesse*. A Joke not much unlike to that of *Henry IV.* who answering a Letter of the Spaniards, filled up with Bravado's of the same Nature, called himself *King of Gentilly*.

*St. DENIS*, a pretty Town, two Leagues from *Paris*, situated on a Brook called *La Cron*, in the middle of a fruitful Plain, and full of Game. At the beginning it was but a Country House of the Lady *Catulla*, who buried there the Bodies of *St. Denis*, Bishop of *Paris*, and of *Eleuthere* and *Ristic*, his two Priests, beheaded in the Persecution of *Decius*, after the Year 250. For the Fable of *St. Denis* the *Areopagite*, coming over into *Gaul* to preach the Gospel, has been so solidly confuted by *Launoy*, and other learned Roman Catholics and French Men too, that I need not to disprove it. I shall only observe, that it has been invented by *Hildumi* Abbot of *St. Denis*, in the Ninth Century, and that though in this and subsequent Ages, shrewd and Deceitful Monks gull'd as much as ever the Ignorant and Credulous Vulgar; however this ridiculous Opinion did



did not want Opposers ; among the rest, the Learned *John Scot Erigene*, who undeceived the Emperour *Charles the Bald*.

The Church was built by *Dagobert I.* and the Abby founded by the same King, who gave to the Abbot an absolute Authority over all the Inhabitants of *St. Denis*, and such, that it extended upon their Lives and Fortunes, and that they were in a manner his Slaves. Moreover, he instituted a yearly Fair, of four Weeks length, to be kept in a Field near the Church, during which he forbade the Merchants of *Paris* to sell any Wares or Commodities. *Charlemaign* ordered that all the Kings and Bishops of *France* should obey this Abbot ; that the Kings should neither be crowned, nor the Bishops ordained without his Leave, that all his Subjects should pay him a Tax for each of their Houses, that Slaves who should willingly pay it, should be put at Liberty, and called the *Free-men of S. Denis*. In 834, *Lewis the Meek*, who had been deposed by his Sons, had his Crown restored to him in this Town by an Assembly of the Clergy, together with the Advice and Consent of the French Nation.

It seems that part of these Priviledges were either lost or contested in process of time ; for *Charles the Bald*, Emperour and King of *France*, who confirmed to these Monks the Grants of *Dagobert*, and added



to them the Lordship of *Ruel* near *Nanterre*, with its Dependencies, and a Country of nine Leagues extent about the *Seine*: This Prince, I say, being buried in *S. Denis's* Church, had these Verses engraven upon his Tomb.

*Multis ablatiis, fuit nobis his reparator,  
Sequanii fluvii, Ruoliique dator.*

It's observed that this Church was never burnt nor plundered, during the Civil Wars; nor when the *Normans*, and then the *English* were Masters of all the Country thereabouts; but apparently it was fallen to decay in the XII. Century, since *Suger*, Abbot of *St. Denis*, and first Minister of State to *Lewis VIII*, was fain to rebuild it; but how rich soever he was, he could not give it its former Magnificence.

The Abbot of *St. Denis* is born Counsellor in the Parliament of *Paris*; he is free from the Subjection to any Bishop; nay, he may bless Church-Ornaments, admit People into inferior Orders, and even communicate this Power to any of his Monks. They are likewise inabled to build Abbies in any place of the Kingdom under his Authority, and to chuse their own Bishop.

The Town of *St. Denis* has been much bigger than it is now, which appears by the old Ditch, that is at 200 Steps distance from



from the present Walls; for it began to diminish, and its Fairs to be less frequented, when the Parliament was made sedentary at *Paris*, and the Inhabitants of *St. Denis* submitted to the Jurisdiction of the *Chastelet* in that City. However, there are still eleven Parishes, besides the Abby of *St. Remy*, the Collegiate Church of *St. Paul*, the Priory of *St. Denis de Lestree*, and the Ruines of an ancient Hermitage, called *St. Quentin*.

In the Plains that are near this Town, was given a famous Battel, between the Protestants under the Prince of *Condé* and the Admiral of *Chastillon*, in 1567, and the Roman Catholicks under the High Constable of *Montmorency*. The first were routed, but the General of the last was killed, which made the Chance pretty equal, so that a Peace ensued two or three years after.

The Abbatial Church of *St. Denis* is 300 Foot in length, 200 wide, and 80 in height. This great Building is supported by 60 Pillars, and has Copper Doors that were formerly gilt with Gold. The Quire is divided into three parts, whereof the first, 68 foot long, and 35 wide, is made use of by the Monks; the second is 45 foot wide, and 35 long, and the third but a little less. As for the Kings Tombs, which are the chiefest Beauty of the Place, they are in three Ranks; in the first whereof is *Charles the Bald's* Tomb; the Bodies of *Lewis* and



*Dagobert* to the Right, *Hugh Capet's* and *Odo's* to the Left, and *St. Denis's* Reliques, richly enchased, in the middle. The second, as well as the third, are the Depositaries of several other Monarchs. *Charles the Fifth's* Chappel, wherein he lies buried with all his Posterity: *Francis the First's* sumptuous Monument, where he and his Children lye, with his Wars and Victories represented on fine Marble, deserve to be particularly considered, as well as *Lewis XII.* and *Ann of Bretaign*, his Wife's Tombs of Alabaster. The Bodies of *Henry II.* and *Catharine of Medicis*, with their Children, *Francis II.* *Charles IX.* and *Henry III.* are in the new round Chappel; those of *Lewis XIII.* and *Henry IV.* are in a little Cellar on the Church-yard side; which besides the Kings, has also several other fine Tombs of famous Persons and Officers of Note, as that of *Bertrand, du Guesclin*, Lord High Constable of France, and of the Marshal of *Turenne*. In the so much celebrated Treasure of *St. Denis*, are many things which the Protestants would not overvalue, as a pretended Nail of our Saviour's Cross, *St. Denis's* Head, enchased in Silver, and adorned with fine Pearls, the Finger *St. Thomas* put into our Saviour's Side, *St. Simeon's* Arm, *St. Benet's* Head, one of *Solomon's* Cups, a Pot that served at the Wedding of *Cana* in *Galilea*, *Judas's* Lanthorn, the Maiden of *Orleans's* Sword,



Sword, Charlemaign's Oratory. But this Abbot has in his Custody the Ornaments of the French Kings, as the Crown, the Scepter, the Hand of Justice, the Royal Mantle, the Dalmatick, the Golden Spurs, enriched with precious Stones, which he is bound to send to the Place where the Kings are consecrated. Besides other Crowns of several Kings, a golden Crucifix, a great many gold and silver Crosses, Images and Books covered with Jewels and Diamonds, a golden Cup, enriched with Hyacinths, Emeralds, and a Saphir, upon which is engraven the Figure of *Solomon*. Some of these Jewels are esteemed 50000 Crowns apiece. There are likewise ancient Medals of the Roman Emperors, whose Price can hardly be known, so rare and curious they are. This Abby has, besides a Fountain very considerable, for the ancient Figures of Idols that are round it.

Two Leagues higher to the North, is the Town of *Montmorency*, the ancientest Barony in the Kingdom, that was considerable enough before the English took and burnt it in 1359, as appears by its Ruines. It had then 600 Mannors depending upon it, and gives yet its Name to a Deanship, and *Chaste'ny*, and a pleasant and fertile Valley, in which it's situated. *Henry II.* erected it into a Dutchy and Peerdome in 1551, on behalf of *Ann* of *Montmorency*, High Constable of



*France.* But this ancient Family, who had lasted 600 years, and produced so many High Constables, Marshals, Admirals, and other great Officers of the Crown, was extinguished in the middle of this Century, there remaining but a Daughter, married to *Henry of Bourbon, Prince of Condé*, in 1650, on whose behalf the Lordship of *Montmorency* was again erected into a Dutchy and Peerdom, in 1633.

*Dammartin*, which *Robie* puts in the *Paris*, lies in the Diocess of *Meaux*, according to *Sampson*. It's a good Borough, with the Title of a County, six or seven Leagues North-East of *Paris*, and seven Miles from *Gonnesse*.

Three Leagues on the North-West of *Paris*, is *Argentuenil*, upon the *Seine*, which forms there a small Island. Our Saviour's Coat without Seam, was found in that Town in 1156, if we believe *Legendaries*.

### French Bise.

*Lagny*, upon the *Marne*, six Leagues Eastwards of *Paris*, has been a considerable Town, and born the Title of a County; but has been twice ruined, by the *Normans* in the Ninth Century, and by the Duke of *Parma*, who took it upon *Henry IV.* for the Leaguers, in 1590. *John, Duke of Burgundy*



*gundy* stay'd two Months at *Lagny*, in 1416, looking for an Occasion to go to *Paris*, and wait upon *Charles VI.* but returning without an Answer, his *Flemings* called him by a Joke, *John of Lagny, who makes no Speed*, which turned afterwards into a Proverb. *Lagny*, in Latin *Lasiniacum*, has an Abby very ancient, as its Walls testify.

*Brie Comte Robert*, six Leagues South-East of *Paris*, is esteemed by some Capital of the French *Brie*; other give that Honour to *Rosoy*, which has an Election, and is situated five or six Leagues farther on the same side.

*Ville-Neuve-S. George*, is a new Town, well built, situated in a pleasant Place, where the River *Yerre* discharges into the *Seine*, three or four Leagues Southwards of *Paris*.

### Hurepoix.

GOing up the *Seine* towards the South, to enter into the *Hurepoix*, the first considerable Town you meet with, is *Corbeil*, situated thirteen Miles off *Paris*, upon the same River, where the *Essonne* discharges itself into it. This Town had its particular Counts in the Tenth and Eleventh Centuries, one of whom, called *Aimon*, built the Collegiate Church of *St. Spire*, and appointed yearly Incomes for its Canons. *Lewis the Barly* got this small Sovereignty from



*Hugh du Puiset*, since which time it remained united to the Crown of France, and was the Head of a Provostship and *Chastelny*. It's said, that *Cæsar*, who calls this Town *Metiosedum*, built the great Tower, named in Latin, *Castrum Corvolum*, which serves still as a Citadel to *Corbeil*, and whence the French Name seems to be derived. Queen *Isenburg* having been divorced from *Philip August*, built there a Pleasure-house, of which some remains are still to be seen, near the *Essonne*, in a place called old *Corbeil*, where she lies interred. In 1418, the Duke of *Burgundy* besieged this Town, but was perswaded to raise the Siege by the Intreagues of *Elizabeth* of *Bavaria*, *Charles* the Sixth's Queen.

**MELUN** upon the *Seine*, four Leagues South-East of *Corbeil*, and ten of *Paris*. *Robbe* puts it in *Hurepoix*, but *Du Chasne* makes it the Head of Justice in *Gastinois*; for it has a Presidial, Baylwick, and Election, upon which the greatest part of *Gastinois* and *Hurepoix*, and some part of *Brie* are depending. *Melun* is divided into three Parts as *Paris*, viz. the City, the new Town, and the Isle. This last was already on foot in *Cæsar*'s time, who calls it *Melodunum*, and has now a Castle and two Churches. The *Normans* destroyed *Melun* in 845, but since it was repaired, and given by *Hugh Capet* to *Bouchard* his Favourite. From about that time



time it began to have its Viscounts, whose Family is yet subsisting in the Princes of *Espinoy*. *Eudes*, Count of *Champaign*, took this Town by Money, but King *Robert* retook and restored it to its Viscount, in 999. It seems that *Melun* became every day stronger, for in 1410, the *English* could not take it but by Famine, nor the *French* retake it in 1435, but by Intelligence. *Melun* is yet strong, big and well Peopled, the *Seine* runs through it, but the Communication is kept by fine Bridges. It has a Collegiate Church, four Parishes, and several Monasteries.

Fifteen Miles North-west of *Melun*, and twelve South of *Paris*, is the Town of *Montlebery*, built by one *Thibaud File-estoupe*, in 1015. There was formerly a strong Castle, but it was all razed (besides the Tower that is yet on foot) by *Lewis VI.* surnamed the *Burly*, because of the Rebellion of *Hugh de Crecy*, Count of that Place. *Guy* his Father, was Great Seneschal of *France*, and married his Daughter *Luciane* to the Son of *Philip I.* afterwards King *Lewis VI.* But the young Prince not liking the Match, repudiated *Luciane*, in 1107; upon which *Hugh* raised a Civil War, and so caused the Destruction of his Lordship and Family. However, this Town became famous in 1465, for the Battel which was fought near it on a *Tuesday*, the 6th of *July*, between *Lewis XI.* and *Charles Duke of Berry*,



his Brother, who had entred a League, call-  
ed the *Publick Good*, with the Duke of Bre-  
tain, the Count of Charolois, and several o-  
ther *French* Lords, against that Monarch.  
The King had some Advantage, though the  
Confederates remained Masters of the Field;  
but what was pretty singular, was that a  
Gentleman fled out of the King's Army as  
far as *Luzignan* in *Poitou*, that is near 150  
Miles; and another out of the Allies, to *Ques-  
noy* in *Hainaut*, about 120, both giving out,  
that they had lost the Day. *Montlebery* is  
built upon a Hill near the River *Orge*, and  
has the Title of a County, Provostship and  
*Chastelny*. King *Lewis XIII.* united it to the  
Dutchy of *Chartres*, and gave it in part of  
his Portion to *Gaston-John-Baptiste*, his Bro-  
ther, Duke of *Orleans*.

Upon the same River, two Leagues South  
of *Montlebery*, is the Town of *Chartres*, near  
whose Walls are the Gardens of *Chantelou*,  
which in King *Henry* the Fourth's time, had  
not the like in the whole Kingdom, and were  
especially admired for their Box and Myr-  
tle-Trees, Harbours and Hedges clipt into  
Figures of the ancient Gods, Heroes, Ro-  
man Gladiators, &c. But this fine Place,  
being fallen into the Hands of some cove-  
rous or lazy Nuns of *St. Bennet's* Order, is  
extreamly decayed.

*Rochefort*, on the River *Remande*, is an  
Earldom, four Leagues West of *Chartres*, and  
almost



almost five North of *Dourdan*, a pretty good Town, and a County too, on the River *Orge* near its Spring, and the Frontiers of *Beaussie*. It was the Patrimonial Estate of *Hugh Capet*, before he ascended the Throne of *France*, and has since been alienated, and reunited to that Crown several times.

*La Ferté-Alais*, lies twenty Miles South of *Paris*, and thirteen West of *Melun*. Between these two Places, thirteen Leagues South South-East of *Paris*, in the Forest of *Biesvre*, is the Borough of *Fontaine-Bleau*, so called for the great Number of its fine Fountains. It's said the Royal House was built by *Francis I.* at the Solicitation of his Daughter *Claudia*, who one day seeing a Hound or Spaniel discover a Spring, desired her Father to build an House there. This Design was since continued by most of the succeeding Kings, and perfected by *Henry the Fourth*, and is now one of the finest in *France*, by reason of the great Number of its Springs, the vast Scope of its Forests, the Beauty of its Gardens, the Length of its Canals, the Richness of its Apartments, Paintings, Statues, and other Curiosities. It would be too tedious to describe all these in particular, there being about 900 Chambers, Cabinets, Halls and Galleries that belong to this great Place, therefore I will only hint at the most principal. The First thing to be observed in going in, is the great  
Cour



Court of the White Horse, round which, are the Apartments of the Officers; hence are fine Steps to the Queens Apartment, in which there is a Garden with a Fountain, that represents *Diana* holding a Deer by the Horn, and followed by four Dogs, and as many Bucks at the bottom. There is also a curious Copper Statue in this Garden, that represents a young Man naked, and pulling a Thorn out of his Foot. The Figure of *Laocoon* with two of his Children, and Serpents stinging them to Death.

The Tennis-Court and Bird-house are sideways, as also the Queens Gallery; after that is the Deer-gallery, which is very long, and beautified with fine Paintings and above 46 Bucks-heads. Hence you may go into the Council-Chamber, where is the Picture of the Count of Ombe, Queen *Mary of Medicis's* Uncle. Thence into that of the Baths, which has a *St. John the Baptist* at the Door, and an *Adonis* and *Venus* upon the Chimny. This leads you into the new Chamber, where is represented the Dutcheſs *Gabrielle*, under the Form of *Diana*, holding a Hunting-Horn in her Hand. Next comes the great Gallery, built by *Charles IX.* in which are these Emblems that follow. The First, *Hinc Ventus sed me spes faciet.* 2. *Puro ardet & uno.* 3. *Nunquam labitur ista fides,* with a Man that helps others out of a Shipwreck. 4. *Perrumpe obstacula lente,* There is



is one who removes Brambles, and the like Impediments out of the way. 5. *Tutum secreta silere*, with an *Harpocrates*. 6. *Pretiosior ipse Lapillis*, a Cupid that picks up small Stones. 7. *Rex floret ab armis*. 8. *Vigilantia regna tuetur*. 9. *Amat Victoria curam*. 10. *Plebis amor regis custodia*, Under the Figure of a Swarm of Bees. 11. *Cor Regis in manu Dei*, Under the Figure of a Hand that comes out of the Clouds. 12. *Arcani custodia fida*. 13. *Mens Ardua tendit in altum*. 14. *Eloquium tot lumina claudit*. 15. *Nulla altius ardet*. 16. *Non frangunt obstacula vires*. 17. *Animos alligat equos*, Representing Justice and Religion. 18. *Manet victoria constans*. 19. *Hoc fœdere lilia Florent*, Representing France in good Union. 20. *Ortus occasibus æquat*. 21. *Obsequium nil impedit umbra*. 22. *Casus hærebit in omnes*. 23. *In splendore tuo labor & quies*. 24. *Agitatus cresco*, A Fire a blowing. 25. *Comitantur furta Dolores*, A Boy breaking a Bee's Swarm. 26. *Mox toto radiabit in orbe*. 27. *Mea clauditur hic spes*. 28. *Innocuo non ardetur igni*.

Then comes the Chamber and Cabinet of Madam Gabrielle, that have each of them an *Adonis* and *Venus*. The Gallery of Francis I. otherwise the little Gallery, has at the going in *Bacchus*, *Venus* and *Cupid*. This Place is remarkable for a Conference upon Matters of Religion, between the Papists and



and Reformed; or rather betwixt *Du Plessis Mornay*, and Cardinal Perron. There is another hard by, that is full of Marble Statues.

The King's Chamber comes next, wherein Marshal *Biron* was disarmed by King *Henry* the Fourth's Order; and the Queen's Anti-chamber, where *Lewis XIII.* was born. The Guards Hall is enriched with Paintings, and a Tapestry that represents *Charles* the Seventh's Victories over the English. Then the Feasting-hall, where on the Chimney is *Henry IV.* a Horse-back, the whole of pure Marble, and extraordinary well worked, having at his Side Clemency and Peace, and trampling upon his Enemies. Then the Hall for Balls, which is very big, and has an Arch, or half Round with these Words, *Donec totum impleat orbem.*

Next these, you must see the Gardens, especially the King's, where there is a *Cleopatra* of Brass very well worked by *Angelo Politian*, and brought out of *Italy* into *France* by *Catharine* of *Medicis*. A *Neptune* also of Brass, with a She Wolf at his Feet, that gives Suck to *Romulus* and *Remus*. There are also three Canals covered with Swans, and well stocked with good and great Fish, among which, that of the Fountain has all the Beauty that Art could give it.



## French Castinois.

**F**ive Miles East of Fontainebleau, is the Borough of Moret upon the Loing, near the Mouth of the River into the Seine. It has the Title of a County, and gave its Name to one of King Henry the Fourth's natural Sons, *Antony of Bourbon, Count of Moret*, killed in the Battel of Castelnaudary, in 1632.

*Nemours*, upon the Loing, is five Leagues higher to the South, and eighteen off Paris. It's a good and pleasant Town, which has the Priory of St. John, the Church of St. Peter, and the Abby of Our Lady of Joy, belonging to the Nuns of Cisteaux. Charles VI. erected *Nemours* into a Dutchy and Peerdom, An. 1404, and exchanged it with *Charles the Noble, King of Navarre* for, some other Lands. But in 1425, this Dutchy returned to the Crown of France till the Year 1461, that King *Lewis XI.* gave it to *James of Armagnac*. This Line was soon ended, and *Nemours* reunited to the French Domestne, in 1507, and given by *Lewis XII.* to *Gaston of Foix*, his Nephew, who died in the Battel at Ravenna, An. 1512. Three years after, the same King invested with this Dutchy, *Julian of Medicis*, who had espoused *Philiberta of Savoy*, this Monarch's Aunt. By this *Julian* was continued the Line of the Dukes of *Nemours* of the House of



of Savoy, during 144 years; Henry II. Duke of Nemours dying without Issue in 1659.

Eight Leagues South-East of Nemours, near the River *Clary*, is the small Town of *Courtenay*, with the Title of Principality, famous for having given its Name to the Royal House of *Courtenay*, that refers its Original to *Peter of France*, seventh Son to *Lewis the Burly*, and has given Emperors to *Constantinople*, Marqueses to *Namur*, and Counts to *Nevers*, *Auxerre* and *Tonnerre*. In process of time this Family was divided into several Branches, of which that of the Lords of *Chevillon* is yet subsisting. In King *Henry the Fourth's* time, they much insisted upon being acknowledged for Princes of the French Blood, as descending directly by Males from that *Peter of France*. But how eager soever they were, they could never be heard, because they are too low in the World.

Between *Courtenay* and *Nemours*, seven Leagues North-West of the first, and about five Miles South of *Nemours*, is *Chateau-Landon*, on the River *Fuzin*, and the Road of *Paris* to *Lyons*. It's a very ancient Town, if we admit the Conjectures of *Vigenaire*, who takes it for the *Vellaudunum* of *Cesar*.

Three Leagues lower to the North, is a Village called *St. Mathurin de l'Archamp*, situated in a Sandy and fruitless Plain, whether superstitious Papists bring Naturals and Fools to be cured.

Pursu-



Pursuing your way to *Paris*, you find the Town of *Milly*, which *Vigenaire* takes for the *Agendicum* of *Cæsar*. It's situated upon the River *Escolle*, between *Melun* and *Nemours*, about five Leagues from each, and has a Royal Seat of Justice.

### Mantoan.

**M**ANTE, which gives its Name to that Tract of Land that is between the *Seine* and the *Vegre* lies twelve Leagues North-West of *Paris*, fourteen North of *Chartres*, on whose Bishop it depends, and three miles from the Forest of *Rosny*, on the North-East. It's surnamed the *Pretty*, and had formerly the Title of a County, with a strong Citadel, that was demolished by *Henry IV.* at the Request of the *Parisians*. And therefore it had hardly been taken from the English by *Charles VII.* in 1449, were it not that the Inhabitants sided with him, and by their overgone, got a Confirmation of all their Priviledges, Offices, Freeholds, and Estates. *Philip August* died there in 1223, as well as a Daughter of *France*, called *Jane*, who built its Collegiate Church, and is interred under the great Altar. *Charles V.* founded in that Town a Convent of *Celestin* Monks, who within the Inclosure of their Monastery have a Hill renowned for producing the best Wine of *France*. Mante has a  
Bailwick



Bailwick, Presidial, Provostship, Salt-Granary, and Town Hall.

*Meulan*, a good Borough upon the *Seine*, is three Leagues nearer *Paris* than *Mante*. Next to *Meulan* is a strong Castle in an Island joyned to the Shoar on both sides by a Bridge. During the Wars of the League, *Henry IV.* took easily the Borough, but could not master the Castle.

Eleven Miles South-East of *Mante*, upon the River *Eure*, is the Borough and Principality of *Anet*, belonging now to the Dukes of *Vendosme*. There is a magnificent Castle, built by *Henry II.* on behalf of *Diana of Poitiers*. Upon the Gate is a Clock that bears a Buck or Stag made of Bell-metall, which strikes the Hours with his Feet, after which fifteen or twenty Dogs, of the same Metal, are heard running, and opening in the Chase. The great Hall and Chambers are Glased with Crystal, the Gardens embellished with a great Number of Fountains and artificial Rocks, with a *Diana* of Marble, adorned with several Branches of Coral, and fine and rare Shells; but what is most curious, is a Marble Statue in the Garden (where the Dwarf, the Citron, and the Orange-Trees are kept) representing a Woman with a white Smock on, so to the Life, that People, though told of it before hand, are deceived at the Sight. Besides these there is a Chappel served by twelve Canons, that  
is



is paved with white Marble, and supported by delicate Pillars, of the Corinthian Order.

*Passy* is along the same River, but six Leagues off *Paris*. It had its beginning from a Royal House, where the Queens of *France* were wont to lye in. And therefore *Lewis IX.* called himself *Lewis of Poissy*, being Born and Baptiz'd there. This Town, though not very big, is nevertheless famous for the Conference held in it between six Cardinals, about forty Bishops, and a great Number of other Roman Catholick Doctors, against twelve or thirteen Reformed Ministers. It was begun the 4th of September, 1561, and broken up the 25th of November next ensuing, by the Jesuit *Layner*, who observing the Stress his Party was put upon, concerning Transubstantiation, made use of Injuries instead of Reason, and threatned the Queen Regent, *Katharine of Medicis*, with the Anger of the Pope, for meddling with Ecclesiastical Affairs. This is a Matter of Fact, confessed even by that partial Scribler, *Moreri*. *Poissy* is yet a pretty Town, the Head of a *Chastelny*, situated in a fine Valley, with a pleasant Wood on the East.

The Borough of *St. Germain en Laye*, at the end of a Wood near the same River, three Miles off *Poissy*, and nine off *Paris*, is considerable for its Royal House, built by  
*Charles*



*Charles V.*, continued by the English, beautified by *Francis I.* and finished by *Henry IV.*, though *Lewis XIV.* has added some new Buildings and Ornaments to it, as the Terrass, the Valley-House, the Flower-Garden, &c. I would be too tedious, should I describe all the Chambers of this Palace, with their rich Furniture ; but I cannot forbear speaking of a Mall, with square Pavilions, built all along, for the Conveniency of the Players and Spectators ; near which are Grotto's, and Places where Outlandish and curious Beasts are kept. In the Castle, built by *Henry IV.* is a Gallery with this Emblem, *Duo Protegit unus*, meaning, that he governed two Kingdoms, *viz.* that of *France* and *Navarre*. Upon the Gate is seen the Castle of *Fontain-bleau*, and on the Sides are the Towns of *Venice*, *Prague*, *Namur*, *Mantua*, *Adem*, *Sion* in *Switzerland*, *Tanger*, *Terracine*, *Ormus*, *Bellitri*, *Wurtemberg*, *Nimeguen*, *Passaw*, *Mastricht*, *Florence*, &c. The next thing that deserves to be seen, are the dry and wet Grotto's ; the dry are only for Refreshment in the Heat of Summer ; the other are more rare and curious. The First of these having a Dragon that raises his Tail, and moves his Wings, spouting up Water in abundance, whilst artificial Nightingales and Cuckows make a charming Noise. On the Sides are two black Marble Statues, that likewise spouts out Water. The



The second wet Grotto, has a Serpent upon the Door, that throws up Water, whilst a great many Nightingales that are all round it, charm the Beholders, who are more surprized still to see a fair young Maid play upon Organs, and turn her Eyes so pleasantly, that several have been puzzled to determine whether it was an Effect of Art or Nature. There is also a fine Table of black Marble, with a Pipe in the middle of it, that throws Water several ways, and into different Figures. Another Marble Table of different Colours, besides Looking-Glasses, Shell-works, and a Dolphin extraordinary well done.

The Third Grotto shews a Neptune, with a crowned Globe, that is carried up on the Water, whose Drops represent Pearls and Diamonds. Here are also Vulcan's Furnace, Paper-Mills, Nightingales singing, with two Angels, that with their Trumpets, open the Doors over against them. Then appears Neptune, armed with his Trident, seated upon a triumphal Chariot, drawn by two white Horses that come out of a Cavern, and after they have stood a while turn back again with a great Noise of Trumpets. There is also a Form that seems to be placed on purpose for People to sit upon, but they will find themselves much mistaken, if they do not know how to turn the Nail that lies under, for they will be soundly wetted ;  
but



but if they understand the Knack, Water suddenly spouts out of a thousand unperceptible Holes in the Pavement, that wet the Beholders in a moment.

The Fourth Grotto, is, without Contradiction, the finest of all, but its hard to come into it, the Water, unless stopped, hindering the Passage. The most remarkable thing in it, is an *Orpheus*, that plays upon his Lute, moving his Hands and Body to keep time with the Instrument, to the great Admiration of the Beholders, who are no less surprized with the great Number of Beasts and Birds, that charmed with his sweet Melody, follow him; of Rocks, Trees and Plants, that stoop to make him their profound Respect. Besides these, there are the twelve Signs of the Zodiack, that run according to their Course in the Firmament: A *Bacchus* seated on his Throne, that holds a Glass in his Hand. In fine, Heaven, Hell, the Sea, Men of War, the four Elements, the Castle of *St. Germain*, the King, the Princes and Court are so well represented upon the Waves, that it's hardly possible to believe it. The Dolphin of *France* also appears there, with Angels that come down from Heaven. There are yet a *Neptune*, a *Mercury*, a *Jupiter*, with the Representation of the four Cardinal Virtues in white Marble, and several other very curious things, that make it one of the finest Places in Europe.



A small League from this Place, towards *Paris*, is a Copse, or Underwood, along the High-way. This Wood has a strange Property, for the Branches cut on one side, will swim atop, if thrown into the Water, but those on the other will sink down; and therefore the Vulgar calls it the *Treason-wood*: adding further, that it was in this place, upon a great Table, which is still to be seen, that *Ganelon* brewed his horrid Perfidies, whereby he betray'd the House of *Ardenne*s, a great many of the French Peers and Captains of *Charlemaign*, and caused the Loss of the Battel of *Roncevaux*, near the *Pyrenean Mountains*, in 780.

About two Leagues from *St. Germain*, and three from *Paris*, is the Borough of *Ruel*, which is considerable for a costly House, formerly belonging to the Cardinal of *Richelieu*. This House has four great separate Apartments, surrounded with good Ditches, and a fine Court in the middle, where are two great Dogs of Brass, that spout Water through their Genitals, and empty the Court to fill the Ditch. A little farther, is a Fountain, in form of a Rose, in which stands *Hercules* with his Club, with *Cerberus* at his Feet, that Vomits up Water as clear as any Crystal. There are also fine Alleys, Gardens, Labyrinths, Aquaducts, and the like.



A Mile higher to the North, at the same distance off *Paris*, is another considerable Borough, called *Nanterre*, where 'tis said that *St. Genevieve* was born and fed her Father's Cattle, in a Park now walled in, of which the Country People tell you, that it is never covered with Water, though all the neighbouring Fields be overflown.

*Chateaufort* is a good Borough too, five Leagues South-West of *Paris*, and two of *Versailles*. It's the Head of a *Chastelny*, in which is the fine Town of *Limours*, eight Leagues South-West of *Paris*, and three West of *Montlebery*.

At the North end of the Forest *Liveline*, nineteen Miles West of *Paris*, and eleven North-West of *Montlebery*, lies upon a Hill, the Town of *Montfort-l'Amaury*, with the Title of a County, and an Election. Whether the Castle of *Montfort* has been built, and the Town walled in by King Robert, Who gave them to its natural Son *Amaury*, is controverted among the French Historians, some of whom deny that King Robert ever had any Bastards; but sure it is, that one *Amaury*, Lord of *Montfort*, lived between the Years 1053 and 1073, and was Father to *Simon*, Count of *Montfort-l'Amaury*, whence is descended the illustrious Family of these Counts, which has produced several great Captains, a High-Constable of France, and nine Sovereign Dukes of Little Brittain,



Britain, from John IV. in 1345, to Claude of France, last Dutcheſs of Britain, who married Francis I. and was Mother to Henry II. Kings of France, by which means this Dutchy was for ever united to that Crown.

At the South end of this Forest is the Marquizat of Rambouillet, and Three or Four Leagues Eaſtward upon the Yvette the Burrough of Dompierre, and the Dutchy of Chevreuſe: Four Leagues upon the ſame River is the pleaſant Town of Long-jumeau.

### French Mexin.

Pont-Oyſe, Oeſie-Pons, Briva-Iſane vel Briviſara, Capital of this Countrey, included betwixt the Rivers Oyſe, Seine, Epte, and Troſne, is a ſtrong place, which had formerly its particular Counts. It's ſituated Fifteen Miles North-weſt of Paris, and Four off the fall of the Oyſe, into the Seine. The Engliſh ſignalized themſelves in defending this place fix Weeks againſt the French King Charles VII. in 1442. Henry III. took it from the Leaguers in July 1589, but the Duke of Mayenn retook it January next. Pontoyſe is ſeated upon a Hill near the Oyſe, and the Town is commanded by a ſtrong, Caſtle. There are ſeveral Churches and

H

Mon-



Monasteries, with a Bailiwick, Provostship, and Castelnay.

*L' Isle-Adam* is an Important Passage upon the same River, Two Leagues above *Pontoyse*. It has given its Name to a Noble Family, whence Two great Masters of *St. John's Order*, *John* and *Philip de Villers L' Isle-Adam* were originary. The Isle of *Rhodes* was taken under the Government of the last in 1522, by *Soliman II.* Emperor of the *Turks*, at the head of an Army of Four Hundred Sails and near Three Hundred Thousand Men after a Siege of 6 Months. The Great Master would perhaps have defended it longer, but that the Divisions of the Christian Princes gave him no hope of relief, besides that a Jewish Physician, and *Amarat* a Spaniard, Chancellor of the Order, betray'd his Counsels to the Infidels.

*Beaumont* a Town and a County Three Miles higher, is another important Key of the *Oyse*, situated upon the steepness of a Hill. The Counts of *Beaumont upon Oyse* have been in credit from the beginning of the Eleventh Century, till *Lewis IX.* bought it of them. This County was erected into a *Peerdom* by *Philip of Valois* on behalf of *Robert of Artois*, in 1328. *Charles Duke of Orleans* was Master of it in 1416, when he was brought Prisoner into *England*, and during his absence, the *Burgundians* his sworn Enemies took and plundered it. Since that time the  
Dukes



Dukes of *Vendosme* have possessed *Beaumont* under the Title of a Dutchy, which was born by *Henry IV.* while King *Anthony* his Father was alive. It has a Royal Seat of Justice.

*Chaumont* situated upon a Hill near the River *Trosne*, Thirteen Miles North-East of *Beaumont*, has the Title of a County, Election, and a Provostship. *Magny* Seven Miles South of *Chaumont*, has likewise an Election and Provostship. The Castle of *Rochevignon* near the *Seine*, Three Leagues South-West of *Magny*, has the Title of Dutchy and Peerdom.

## Beauvaisis.

*Beauvaisis* upon the *Terrain* or *Therin*, Capital of this County, Sixteen Leagues North-West of *Paris*, and almost Eight from *Beaumont*, is a very Ancient Town. For *Duchefne* pretends that it was built by one *Belgus XIV.* King of the *Gauls*, long before *Troy* it self; and *Servius* calls it *Belge*. Whatsoever it be, sure it is that in *Cæsar's* time it was very considerable, that its Inhabitants were the most powerful of the *Belge*, and those who withstood him the longest, their Jurisdiction was bigger than the *Beauvaisis* is now, for it extended as far as *Vermendois* and *Soissons* on the East, the *Norman Vexin*, and the Countrey of *Caude* on the West, the



*Paris* on the South, and the Territory of *Amiens* on the North. Besides *Beauvais*, *Cesaromagus* and *Bellovaci*, there was another great and strong City which *Cæsar* calls *Brantuspantium*, but no body can certainly tell where it was seated; *Oysel*, *Sanfon*, and *Adrian de Valois* pretend that it was *Beauvais* it self. After this first Emperour had subdued *Beauvais*, it remained under the *Romans*, till the *French* became Masters of the *Gauls*, to whom it was so faithful, that we do not read that it was ever taken by their Enemies; for which reason it is called by some Authors the *Virgin City*. The *English* endeavour'd in vain to surprize it in 1433, and *Charles the Rash*, last Duke of *Burgundy* was not happier in 1472, for after Six Weeks, he was forced to Raise the Siege. It's said that this Prince's Ordinance was Extraordinary good, and that upon this account he boasted to carry with him the Keys of all the Towns of *France*. Hence his Jester not long after the Raising of this Siege took occasion curiously to pry into the Mouth of all the Cannons, and when the Duke asked him what he did, I look, sais he, for the Key of *Beauvais*, but I cannot find it. For this Warlike Resistance, the Inhabitants got several priviledges, as to be free from the Duty of Arrear-ban, with the liberty of enjoying Noble Mannors, without paying any Money to the Crown.

But



But the Women as they shewed a Courage much above their Sex, so they were honoured above the rest. For they were allowed to adorn themselves at their Wedding-Day as sumptuously as they would; a Liberty very unusual in those Days: Likewise to precede the Men at a Procession to be made every Year at the Festival of *S. Agadrefine*, and to bring their Offerings to the Altar before them.

*Beauvais* is a very fine City both for its Buildings as the Episcopal Palace, the Cathedral Church of *St. Peter*, which has Eight Dignitaries, and Forty Canons, Six Collegiate Churches, and Three Abbeys; and likewise for its Territory, which is pleasantly interrupted with Plains, Vallyes, and Hills that are Fertile in Wine, Corn, Hay, and all sorts of Fruits, nay the Meadows are so good that Muttons are here bigger and fatter than in other parts of *France*: This Town besides is well fortified, the Walls being thick and strengthened with Bulwarks and Rampiers, the Ditches deep and broad, with Sluces to let the Water in or out.

*S. Lucian* is thought to have been the first Bishop of *Beauvais* in the Primitive Ages of Christianity; but either of him or his Successors is little certainty, till the VIII, or IX. Century.



## 150 *A Description of*

*Odet of Coligni*, Cardinal of *Chastillon* was Bishop of this Town in the last Age, and being perswaded of the Truth of the Reformation, refused to say Mass in the Cathedral on *Easter-day* 1561, and made bold to Celebrate the Lords Supper in his Private Chappel. The *French Kings*, and the Counts of *Blois* and *Champaign* have endowed this Bishoprick with great Revenues and Priviledges, so that its Prelate is Spiritual and Temporal Lord of this Town and County, and the first among the Ecclesiastical Counts and Peers of *France*. His Power howsoever is not so great as it was before the Year 1539, that there was no Royal Officer but a Judge of Priviledged Men: Since that time a Bailiwick, Presidial, Election, and Mayoralship have been founded there. In 1609 that *Duchefne* wrote his Antiquities, all the Judges depended yet upon the Bishop. He has Nine Arch-Deacons, and Three Hundred and Seventy Parishes under him.

The Chief Trade of *Beauvais* consists in Serges, Cloaths, and the like Stuffs; in Earthen Vessels, which are made of an excellent Potters-Clay, that abounds in this Countrey, in lines which are transported into *Holland* and *Flanders*. There are a great many Villages round about the Town, and several Noble Families, whence are issued Four great Masters of *St. Johns Order*, *John* and



and Philip de Villiers L'Isle-Adam, Claudius de la Sengle, and Vignacourt. But the most Illustrious of all is John of Bethencourt the first King and Discoverer of the Canaries, in 1402.

Among the Titles of the Bishop of Beauvais is that of *Vidame*, or *Vicedominus* of Gerberoy, because he is Lord Temporal of that Borough situated on the Frontiers of Picardy, upon a Mountain which has the Terrain at its foot, Five Leagues North-West of Beauvais. It is famous for a Battle between the English and the French fought in 1435, where the Count of Arundel lost his Life.

Bulles a Borough Four Leagues East of Beauvais is renown'd for its Lines, and known since the Year 1075: Clermont Eleven Miles South-East of Beauvais, and Six of Bulles is a pretty good Town, seated upon a small Hill. It has the Title of a County, and has given its Name to a Noble Family, known since the Eleventh Century. It was extinguished within Two Ages, and King Lewis the IX. gave it to Robert of France, his Son, about the Year 1291, but in 1327 Charles the fair exchanged it with Lewis, Robert's Son for some other Lands, and erected the Barony of Bourbon into a Duchy and Peerdom, which made this House change their Surname, and take that of Bourbon. It's from this Robert that the present Kings of France are descended.



ded. *Clermont* was restored to these Lords by *Philip of Valois*, who would not keep the Match of his Predecessor, but confiscated by *Francis I.* upon *Charles of Bourbon*, High-Constable of *France*, because he had revolted from him to the Emperour *Charles V.* The other Towns or considerable Burroughs of *Beauvaisis* are *Merlon*, *Bury*, *Anzac*, *Angy*, *Mouy*, *Monchy*, *Tillart*, &c.

### Valois.

Going over the *Oyse*, you enter into the Country of *Valois*, call'd *Pagus Vadenfis* in the Statute-Books of the Emperour *Charles the Bald*. Mention is made of it since *Philip I.* Afterwards this County was often given to the Children of the French King for their Portion; whence it came, that the French King *Philip VI.* Son to *Charles Count of Valois*, *Alencon*, &c. and Grandson to *Philip the Bold*, was surnamed *de Valois*, and communicated this Appellation to Thirteen Kings descended from him, until *Henry IV.* in whom began the branch of *Bourbon*. *Charles VI.* Erected this County into a Dutchy and Peerdome in 1402, and it makes yet part of the Portion of *Philip of France Lewis XIV.* his Brother.



*Creil* upon the *Oyse*, with a Fine Bridge, and a Provostship resorting to the Bailiwick of *Senlis* is the first Town you meet with coming out of *Beauvaisis*. *Charles V.* built there a strong Castle, which fell in the hands of the *English* under *Charles VI.* and was retaken by *Charles VII.* in 1442. *Creil* is Two Leagues North of *Senlis*, and Eleven of *Paris*.

*Chantilly* upon the *Nonnette* Three Miles South of *Creil* is a Royal House with fine Gardens and Water-Spouts, belonging now to the Prince of *Condé*.

*Vernuil* upon the *Oyse* a League East of *Creil*, has been Erected first into a Marquizate, and lately into a Dutchy, and Peerdom by *Lewis XIV.* Anno 1652.

*Senlis, Augustomagus Silvaneetum*, is situated on a Hill betwixt Two small Rivers, which mix their Waters near it, and bear the Name of *Nonnette*, with the Forest *Halatre* on the North, and that off *Senlis* on the South, Nine or Ten Leagues of *Paris*. It's the most considerable Town of this Dutchy, having a Bishoprick, Bayliwick, and Presidial, Seven Parochial, and Two Collegiate Churches. *St. Proculus* was his first Bishop. The whole Diocess is interwoven with woods which has given it its Latin Name. In 873 *Charles the Bald* assembled there the Bishops of *Sens* and *Rheims*, to try his Son *Carloman*, who was a Deacon, and had re-



volted against him. The Young Prince was condemn'd, and his Eyes pull'd out, and was put close Prisoner in the Abby of Corby: Thence he made his escape to Lewis the Germanick his Unkle, who gave him the Abby of Epternack, where he died sometime after. In 1589 the Leaguers besieged this Town, but were forced to raise the Siege by the Duke of Longueville, and the Lord of la Noue, King Henry IV's. Generals, leaving Fifteen Hundred Men upon the spot.

*Crespy* Eleven Miles East of *Senlis*, and Thirteen Leagues North-East of *Paris* was formerly a considerable City, and the Capital of *Valois*. It had the Title of a County, or was the Seat of the Counts of *Valois*, who are indifferently call'd by these Two Names. This Title has likewise been borne by some Children of the French Kings. Its Castle which is now almost ruined, is said to have been built by K. *Dagobert*, and keeps still some remains of its Antiquity, and of the greatness of the Town, that has not at present above Five Hundred Houses. However it is yet the head of a Provostship and Castelnry. *Francis I.* concluded a Peace in this Town with the Emperour *Charles V.* on the Eighteenth of September 1544.

*La-Ferte-Milon* upon the little River *Oure*, 4 Leagues South-East off *Crespy*, and almost 6 North-East of *Meaux* is another Provostship and Castelnry. It is called in Latin *Firmitas Milonia*



*Milons*, that is the Castle, or Fortress of *Miloh*, having been built by a Count of that Name, under the Reign of *Lewis the Burly*. For as the Authors of the middle Age of the Latin Tongue said *firmare* for *munire*, and *firmitas* for *munimentum*; So the French who formed their Language upon this corrupted Speech call'd *Ferme*, such places as were strong by Art and Nature, and distinguished 'em from one another either by the Name of their Founder, or by some particular circumstance of their situation. As to this it's a pretty good Town with a Castle and Suburbs.

*Villers-Coste-Res* on the West-side on the Forest of *Res*, Five Miles North of *La Ferte Milon*, was formerly a Royal House, where the French Kings often dwelt, to take the pleasure of Hunting.

*Pont St. Maixence* is a considerable Burrough upon the *Oyse*, Three Leagues North-East of *Sentis*.

*Bethisy* upon the River *Ottenete*, a Mile Southwest of the Forest of *Compiègne*, is a good Burrough which had formerly a strong Castle, that is now almost ruined. *John* of *Bethisy* Physician to King *Philip the Bold*, was Famous under his Reign. This Burrough is still the Head of a Provostship and *Castelny*, as well as *Pierrefons*, a Mile East of the same Forest.

*Compiègne*



*Compiègne. Compendium*, at the meeting of the Rivers *Aisne* and *Oyse*, above Eight Leagues North-East of *Senlis*, was built by the Romans, or at least before the French master'd the Gauls. It's still a considerable Town, and hath often been the Residence of the French Kings; for *Clotaire I.* died, and was buried there in 564, and the Emperour *Charles the Bald* repaired and increased it, and called it after his Name, *Carlopolis*. *Charles VI.* took it from the Duke of *Burgundy*, in 1415, and Fifteen years after the same Duke besieging this Town, assisted by the English, the *Virgin of Orleans* was taken in a Sally. Besides King *Clotaire*, *Lewis II.* and *V.* and *Henry III.* have been interred in this Town; in which are made several Manufactures, and whence a great quantity of Wood is carried down to *Paris*.

## Soissonnois.

The Diocess of *Soissons* above the River *Aisne* has the Dutchy of *Valois* on the West, *Laonnois* and *Champagne* on the West, *Brie* on the South, and *Picardy* on the North. *Soissons* its Capital City is a very Antient City, for in *Cæsars* time it was already the Head of the *Suessiones*, whose Jurisdiction was pretty large: *William the Britain*, a Latin Poet of France, who lived in the Thirteenth



Thirteenth Age, says that it was built by some banished *Sueves*, who imposed that Name upon it. Whatever it may be, sure it is, that when *Cæsar* subdued the *Gauls*, *Soissons* had Twelve other Towns under it, and could put Fifteen Thousand Men in Arms, which were *Smeden* in their Capital. During the *Roman* Emperors, the *Prætors* of *Belgick Gaul* made their ordinary Residence in this City, and under the *French Kings* of the first Race, it has been some time the Capital of a Kingdom of that Name. It is yet somewhat big, and as a Bayliwick, Presidial and generality, and an Academy of Humane Learning, which was the first that was associated to that of *Paris*. It's Bishop is the first Suffragan to the Archbishop of *Rheims*, he has the right of anointing the *French Kings* in the absence of his Metropolitan, and has sometimes performed that Office. This Diocess has Seventeen Parochial Churches besides the Cathedral, Six Abbeys in the Town, and Eighteen in the Country thereabouts, and several Monasteries. It's Territory is fruitful in Corn, with which *Paris* is chiefly provided.

### Laonnois.

*Laon* was but at the beginning a Castle seated on the top of a Hill, and called by the



the Inhabitants; *Landunum*; and *Langdunum* *Clavatum*, in the Territory of *Rheims* Church the great increased it into a City, and *St. Remy*, Arch-Bishop of *Rheims* erected it into a Bishoprick, making his Friend *Genebaut*, Partner of the Gifts and Possessions he had received from that Prince. *High Capet* made this Bishop the Second of the Six Ecclesiastical Dukes and Peers of *France*, because this Prelate had betrayed into his hands *Charles* of *Lorraine* his Competitor. This is related by *Du Chesne*; but if it be true, 'tis a wonder how this Bishop is not mentioned among the Suffragans of *Rheims*, in a Notice or Catalogue of Bishops ending at the year 1220, and that in others of latter Date, all quoted by *Valesius*, he is put in the last rank. Whatever it may be, this Prelate assumes still the Title of Duke of *Laon*, Peer of *France*, and Count of *Amisy*, and it appears that he had already some Temporal Jurisdiction in 1112, since *Waldric* Bishop of *Laon* was then kill'd, endeavouring to keep his Citizens from entering into an association, they had sworn against the Kings Consent. Another nam'd *Roger* far'd better in an undertaking of the same Nature; for at the head of some Troops, he routed his Diocesans, who had sworn an Association with the French King *Lewis the Burly's* leave. This Town was besieged Twice, by *Lewis IV.* who was taken Prisoner there. This Diocese has Two places,



oes, renowned for many pretended Miracles: The first is *Notre-Dame-de-Liesse*, for our Lady of Joy; the second is called *St. Marcon*, whether the French Kings must needs undertake a Pilgrimage, immediately after their coming to the Crown, if they will get the power of curing the Kings-Evil.

### Noyonnois.

*Noyon* is seated betwixt Three small Brooks, called *La Versette*, *La Golle*, and *La Marguerite*, near the River *Oyse*, Nine Leagues East of *Laon*, and almost Eight of *Soissons*: It's an Ancient City, called by the *Latins*, *Noviomagus*. The Bishoprick of *St. Quentin* was transferred thither, in 524, after the Town had been ruined by the *Vandals*. This Prelates Jurisdiction was formerly very great, since all *Flanders* depended on him, before *Tornay* was erected into a Bishoprick in 1146. However the Bishop of *Noyon* is still one of the Ancient Counts and Peers of *France*. This City has had several misfortunes, for it was plunder'd by the *Normans* in 859, and burned three times, viz. in 1131, 1152, and 1228: Norwithstanding it is yet a considerable Town well built, and has Four Suburbs. King *Henry* the Great took it from the *Leaguers* in 1591, but the Duke of *Mays* having retaken it, Two years after the King besieged



besieged and took it again in 1594. In 1516. a Treaty of Peace was negotiated there, between Francis I. and Charles of Austria, since Emperour, and Calvin was born in it the 10th. of July 1509.

*Chauny Contraginnum*, and *Calniacum* upon the River *Oyse*, Three Leagues East of *Noyon*, is a Royal Town, and the Head of a Castelnry. After the Battle of *St. Lawrence* in 1557, the Imperialists, having taken several Towns in *Picardy*, put a strong Garrison in *Chauny*, it being a Key of the *Oyse*.

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## CHAP. V.

### Of Picardy.

**T**HIS Province hath the *Ile of France* on the South, *Champaign*, *Haynaut*, and *Flanders* on the East; the County of *Artoys*, and the Streights of *Dover* on the North; the *British Sea* and *Normandy* on the West. It is one of the principal parts of the *Antient Belgæ*. Though the Name of *Picardy* be Modern, and its Original contested. The Opinion that seems to me the more reasonable, is that of *Adrian de Valois*, who derives it from *Pique* and *se Piquer*, to have a Pick, or to be passionate. He conjectures that it was first a Nick-Name given by the  
Scholars



Scholars of the University of *Paris* to their Fellows of that Province. And indeed we see that it was first the Sirname of some Private Men, as of one *Clement* in 1023, and one *William* in 1099; and that in process of time it became at last the name of the whole Province, as may be read in *Nicolas de Bray*, about the year 1215. Besides that the *French*, especially in those Ages, were wont to end in *ard*, the words signifying the defects of the mind, as *Babillard*, *Bavard*, *Musard*, *Fetard*, &c. It was formerly one of the greatest Governments of *France*, before the Country of *Beauvaisis*, *Noyon*, *Soissons*, *Valois*, and *Laon* were taken from it. To make amends, the County of *Artois*, which by the Peace of *Nimeguen* in 1677, was wholly yielded to *France*, has been added to it, together with the old Conquests of *Landrecy*, *Quesnoy*, and *Avenes*, in *Hainaut*.

This Country is extraordinary fruitful in Corn, and has the conveniency to send it away by Sea to *Paris*, and other places; whence it is esteemed the chief Granary of the Isle of *France*; but there grows no Wine; either because the Inhabitants neglect to plant Vines, or rather that the Country is too cold. There is a great number of Nobility, and of the Antientest in the Kingdom, which has propagated in them the Martial Humour of the Antient *Belge*: Its Inhabitants are said to be free, civil, generous,



rous, and good Natur'd, but somewhat too passionate.

As to the Seats of Justice, *Elizabeth*, *Charles VI.* Queen, erected a Sovereign Court of Justice, or Parliament at *Amiens*, during her Regency; but as the Parliament of *Paris* had an ill Eye upon this institution, which restrain'd its Jurisdiction into narrower limits, and that the Supream Power did not remain long in her hands, so did not this Parliament likewise long subsist: So that all the Bayliwicks, Presidials, and Justices of this Province are still resorting to the Parliament of *Paris*. Part of this Country, viz. all that is beyond the River *Somme* was formerly alienated from the Crown of *France*, by *Charles VII.* and yielded for ever to the Duke of *Burgundy*, in 1435.

*Picardy* is divided by some into upper and lower, but the most common and easie Division is into Seven Precincts or Countreys, which last shall I follow here, going from the East to the West, and from the South to the North; their Names are *Tierache*, *Vermandois*, *Santerre*, *Amienois*, *Ponthieu*, *Boulenois*, *Pais Reconquis*, or the Recovered Countrey.

Its Rivers are besides the *Oyse*, that has already been described: The *Serre* that comes from the Borders of *Champagne*, washes *Creey*, and mixes with the *Oyse* at

*La-Fere.*



*La-Fere.* The *Somme*, that takes it source in *Vermandois*, at a place called *Fonfonne*, washes *St. Quintin*, *Hain*, *Peronne*, *Corbie*, receives the *Avreigne* increased with the *Noye*, goes through *Amitens*; next to it receives the *Celle*, washes *Pequigny*, *Abbeville*; and near its mouth being increased with the *Trie*, *Damboise*, *Damerise*, falls into the Ocean at *St. Vallery*. The *Maye* comes from *Gapennes* near the Forest of *Crecy*, makes a Lake between *Bernay* and *Ruo*, and discharges it self into the Sea, Six or Seven Leagues from its Source. The *Authie* rises in the *Amienois*, at a place called *Chasteau d'Authie*, goes through *Dourlans*, *Dompierre*, *Douriers*, *Nempons*, and runs into the Sea five Miles North of *Crotoy*, and Six South-West of *Montrenil*. The *Canche* rises in *Artoys*, near *Hermanville*, washes *Estree*, *Hesdin*, *Montrenil*, and discharges it self into the Sea near *Estaples*. *Linne* is a small River of the *Boulenois*, upon which *Boulogne* is seated. *Ostouvre*, *Veredienne* and *Soudure*, are Three small Rivers of the *Recover'd Country*, which joyn together Two or Three Miles above *Calice*, and then fall into the Sea.

### Tierache.

This Country, the most Easterly of *Picardy* is full of Woods, and has taken its Name



Name from a Forest call'd *Teoracia Sylva*, which separates it from *Hainaut* on the North-West. It has several considerable Towns, whereof *Guise* upon the *Oyse* is accounted the Capital. It was formerly a County, and the ordinary Portion of the youngest Sons of the House of *Lorraine*, but erected into a Dutchy and Peerdom by *Francis I.* on behalf of *Claudius* of *Lorraine*, in 1528. This is that same Family that would have usurp'd the Crown of *France*, on pretence of Religion, for which purpose they raised several Civil Wars in *France*, especially that called the *Holy League*, to exclude *Henry* of *Bourbon*, the Lawful Successor.

Seven Miles lower, along the *Oyse*, is the Town of *Ribemont*, *Ribodi Mons*. It has an Abby under the Title of *St. Nicholas des Prez*. *Ansell* of *Ribemont* was one of the Lords that went to the Holy Land in 1096, and was kill'd in the Siege of the Castle of *Ptolemais*. Seven Miles still lower in a Marshy place, where the *Serre* falls into the *Oyse* is the strong Town of *La Fere*, with thick Brick-Walls, good Bastions, and Rampiers, and a Castle. It was already a strong hold in 958; so that it seems a Colony of the Ancient *Franks*, who call'd *Fara* such Boroughs as were inhabited by one Family or Race, without mixture of any other. During the Wars of the League, the Marquess of *Maignelay*, Governour of that place, had pro-



promised to restore it to the French King Henry IV. but he was murder'd before he could perform his promises. The Duke of Mayenn gave the Government of *La Fere* to one *Colas* the Marquis's Murderer. *Colas* deliver'd it afterwards to the Spaniards, who allowed him to enjoy it under the Title of a County ; but Henry IV. got it from his hands in 1597, by a Capitulation, that *Colas* subscrib'd with the Title of the Count of *La Fere*.

Four Leagues East of *La Fere* is the Town and Castle of *Crecy*, upon *Serre*, *Creciacum ad Saram* ; Seven Miles North-East of *Crecy*, the Town of *Marle* ; *Marna Castrum*, which had formerly a strong Castle, and its particular Lords, Mayor, and Sworn Officers. Seven Miles to the North of *Marle* lies the Town of *Vervins*, famous for a Treaty of Peace concluded there, between the French King Henry IV, and Philip III. King of Spain, in 1598. Seven Miles Eastward is the Town of *Aubenton*, upon a River of that Name, and at the same distance over against *Marle*, the Town of *Moncornet*, *Mons Cornutus*, or the Horn-Mountain, because it is seated upon the Two Tops of a Mountain, that have the shape of a pair of Horns.

*La Cappelle* is a strong Town on the Frontiers of *Haynaut*, Seven Miles North of *Vervins*, built in the last Age to stop the In-



Incurſions of the *Netherlanders*. It has been often taken and re-taken by the *Spaniards*, and the *French*. There are ſome other places leſs conſiderable, as *Elieſon*, *Iritio*, about Five Leagues from the Source of the *Oyſe*; it was ruin'd under the laſt Reign by the *Spaniards*. *Eſtree-au-pond Strata ad Pontem*, on the ſame River, Two Leagues South of *La Cappelle*. *Reſoy, Roſetum* 2 Leagues North-Eaſt of *Moncornet*. *S. Michael* and *Foiſny*, Two Abbeys; the firſt of *St. Bennets*, the ſecond of *Ciſteaux*. *Fleo Major*, *le grand Floyon*, the Native Countrey of *S. Urſmar*, Abbot of *Lob*, *Le Petit-Floyon*, *Autrepo*, *Altavipa*. All this Countrey depends for the Spiritual on the Biſhop of *Laon*, except *Raminicum*, on the Borders of *Champaign*, Three Miles South-Eaſt of *Aubenton*, which is under the Arch-Biſhop of *Rheims*.

### Vermandois.

This Countrey, which retains ſtill the Name of its Antient Inhabitants, called by *Cæſar Veromandui*, was much larger than it is now, ſince it comprehended the Dioceſs of *Noyon*, *Soiſſons*, and *Laon*, but now it has not above Six Leagues Eaſt and Weſt, and Nine or Ten North and South. I ſhall not determine whether *St. Quentin* upon the *Somme* is the *Augusta Veromanduarum* of the Antients



Antients, or whether it be *Vermand* upon the *Oumignon*, that is now but an Abby. The curious may consult *Chuvier* and *Sanson*, who maintain the last Opinion, and *de Valois*, who defends the first. Sure it is that *St. Quentin* has got its Name from one *Quintinus*, who was Bishop of that Town, and is said to have been beheaded there under the Empire of *Dioclesian*. Before the Bishoprick was transferred to *Noyon*, the Collegiate Church of *St. Quentin* was a Cathedral. This Town was formerly a County belonging to the Counts of *Vermandois*, but it was re-united to the Crown of *France*, some time after the year 1156. In 1557 the Spaniards, knowing that *St. Quentin* was unprovided with Men, and ill fortified, laid siege before it. The Admiral of *Coligny* had got into the place with a few Troops, and his Name and Valour were for some time the best Rampier of that Town, which saith *Morery*, as partial as he is against the Protestants, was not able without him to withstand such an Army Four and Twenty Hours. The High Constable of *Montmorency*, attempting the relieving of this place, was defeated, and taken Prisoner, with the Dukes of *Montpensier* and *Longueville*, the Marshal of *St. André*, Ten Knights, Three Hundred Gentlemen, and Five Thousand Soldiers. The Number of the Dead was not less, and because this Battle was fought the 10th day of August;



*August*; it was called the *Battle of St. Lawrence*; in memory of which, *Philip II.* King of *Spain*, dedicated to that Saint the Palace called the *Escorial* near *Madrid*. This Victory made the *Spaniards* Masters of all *Vermandois*, and the Diocess of *Noyon*. However *St. Quentin* was restored to the *French* by the Peace of *Chateau-Cambresis* in 1559, though this Treaty was not much otherwise to the Honour of *France*.

Three Leagues South of *St. Quentin* is the Dutchy of *St. Simon*, and Three Miles farther the Town of *Ham*, both upon the *Somme*. This last is strong and well fortified, being built in a Plain, and having the River on one side, and a Marsh on the other; a Citadel with Four Bastions, and a Square Tower: It was first a Burrough built by the Antient *French*, since *Ham* in the *German* Tongue signifies a Burrough. During the Wars of the League, the Lord of *Mouy Gomeron*, Governour of the place, dying in 1595, his Three Sons went to *Bruxels* to demand their Arrears; and were detained Prisoners by the *Spaniards* till they should deliver the Castle into their hands: But *Dorvilliers* their Brother by the Mothers side, whom they had intrusted with the Government of the Town in their absence, would not consent to it, and having call'd the Nobility of *Picardy* to his help, *Ham* was taken by Storm, and the *Spanish* Garrison cut into pieces.

The



The *Castelet* is a strong Fortress on the Frontier of *Cambresis*, which was restored to the French by the Peace of *Pyrenees*, in 1659.

### Santerre.

GOing Westwards from the *Castelet*, you enter into the Countrey of *Santerre*, which some call *Seme-terre*, becaule of its fertility. It is above twenty two Leagues Northwest, and Southeast, and but seven or eight East and West where it is broadest. *Peronne*, its Capital, five leagues South-West of *Castelet*, almost seven West of *St. Quintin*, and eleven East of *Amiens*, is a very strong Town, both by reason of its scituation upon the River, and among Marshes, and of its Fortification. It was first a Village wherein *Erchinoald*, Mayor of the Palace built a Monastery 1070, on behalf of an Irish Monk, call'd *Furseus*, whence it got the name of the Abby of the *Scots*. King *Charles* the VII. had yielded *Peronne* to *Philip* the good Duke of *Burgundy*, in 1435; however, that shrewd Politician King *Lewis* the XI. was so confident as to come to *Peronne*, in order to conferr with *Charles* the Rash, the then Duke of *Burgundy*, at the same time that he had raised the *Liegemen* against him. This Prince, tho not otherwise very cunning, made use of so favourable an occasion, kept the King a Prisoner, forced him to yield *Champaign* and *Brie* to his Brother, and brought him before *Liege*, to be Spectator of his Victory, as really he was; for,

I  
that



that City was taken by Storm, ransack'd and burnt the 30th. of October 1468.

Eleven miles West of *Peronne* is the Town of *Ancre*, upon a River of that Name; It had the Title of *Marquizate*, and is known at present under the name of *Albert*.

In 1600, a *Florentin*, call'd *Concino Concini*, came out of *Italy*, under the Quality of Gentleman Usher to *Mary of Medicis*, *Henry the IV.* his Queen, and by his shrewdness, or good parts, came to be Marquess of *Ancre*, Lord Marshal of *France*, Governour of *Normandy*, and the Citadel of *Amiens*, and to have the chief management of Affairs under the minority of *K. Lewis XIII.* But at last, either by Envy, misusing of his Favour, or the weakness of that Monarch, who, as *Bassompierre* expressly observes, consented to his Death; he was murder'd by a Conspiracy of the Great, upon the Drawbridge of *Louvre*, the 24th. of April 1617.

*Moreuil* upon the *Aisne*, is above eight leagues Southwest of *Peronne*, and *Mondidier* ten: This last is strong, has a particular Governour, and has often repulsed the *Spaniards*. The Town of *Roye* is four leagues Northeast of *Mondidier*. It is a Lordship, which has given its Name to the noble Family of *Roye*, that subsists from the tenth or eleventh Century. *Crevecoeur* is a small Town, with the Title of a *Marquizate*, 8 leagues West of *Mondidier*. *Nesle* is another small Town, which has given the Title of Marquess to a noble and Ancient Family in that Countrey, whence are issu'd high Constables to *France*, as *Raoul de Nesle*, under *Philip the bold*. It is situated upon the little River *Ignon*, or  
Lig-



*Lignan*, above four Leagues South of *Peronne*, and five miles North-east of *Roye*. It was taken by *Charles the rash*, last Duke of *Burgundy*, in 1472; and all its Inhabitants were either put to the Sword, hang'd, or had their Fists cut off, because they had killed one of the Dukes Heralds, whom he sent to summon them, and withal two of his men during a Truce. *Chaunes*, a Dutchy and Peerdom, erected by *Lewis XIII.* in 1621. is situated between *Nesle* and *Peronne*. *Halluin*, or *Maignelay*, is another Dutchy and Peerdom, bordering to *Beauvaisis*, six leagues South-west of *Roye*.

### *Amienois.*

**T**HIS Countrey is otherwise called *Proper Picardy*, and is extended about ten leagues East and West, where it is broadest, and twenty North and South: But formerly it reached much farther, as appears yet by the Jurisdiction of the Bishop of *Amiens*, which comprehends, besides this Countrey, that of *Vimeux* and *Ponthien*, and a good part of the County of *Artois*: It is watered with several Brooks and Rivers, and beautified with divers small Woods. The first Town you meet with coming from *Santerra*, is the Town of *Corbie* upon the *Somme*, near its receiving another small River, that takes here the name of *Corbie*. It has the Title of a County, and was but at the beginning an Abby founded by King *Clotaire the III.* and his



Queen *Batilde*, in 662. The famous *Ratramn* who opposed the monstrous Tenet of Transubstantiation in its very Birth, was Monk in this Abby. *Corby* is yet a strong Town, which the *Spaniards* had surprized in 1636; but some time after being besieged in it, and streightned by the French, 'tis said that they wrote to Prince *Thomas* of Savoy their General, in the following words, O Lord have mercy on us, as we have trusted in thee: *Fiat misericordia tua, Domine, super nos quem ad modum speravimus in te.*

Four Leagues farther upon the same River, is the Town and Bishoprick of *Amiens*, suffragan to *Rheims*, and Capital of this whole Government: Its Foundation is uncertain, tho it be very Ancient, since the *Ambiani*, who doubtless signifie the Inhabitants of the *Amienois*, were already powerful in *Cesar's* time. Their Capital was then call'd *Samarobriua*, a Gaulish name, that signifies *Samara's bridge*, for the River *Somme* was then call'd *Samara*, and afterwards *Sumina*; as *Samarobriua* it self lost its name in process of time, and took that of *Ambiani* from its Inhabitants. Several Roman Emperors strove to beautifie it, and some took it for their Residence-place, when they were in the *Gauls*; but in the fifth, sixth, and following Ages, it was much annoy'd and impaired, by the Incurfion of the *Alains*, *Vandals*, and *Normans*, so far, that it was almost wholly burn'd in 925. In 1329, *Edward III.* King of *England*, made here homage to King *Philip* of *Valois*, for the Dukedom of *Guyenne*, and County of *Ponthieu*, in the presence of the Kings of *Aragon*, *Navarr*, *Bohem*, and *Majorque*, who were



were then gathered to undertake a Journey and military Expedition into the Holy Land. This Monarch began to fortifie *Amiens* in 1347, but it was *Lewis XI.* who brought this Design to any perfection. In the Month of *March* 1597, the Spaniards took this City by a War-stratagem, having caused a Cart full of Nuts to be broken, as by chance, within one of the Gates, and while the Garrison was gathering the Nuts, and the Gate could not be shut, the Spanish Army that was hard by fell upon them, and master'd the Town. But *Henry IV.* retook it with plain Force before the end of the Year, and then raised there a Cittadel, which was accounted in his time one of the best, and most regular in *Europe*: This City has a Bailiwick, Presidial and Generality: Its Rampiers are adorned with great Alleys of Trees. The River *Somme* enters into the Town by three Channels, and serves for the use of several Manufactures: Its Cathedral is one of the biggest and finest in the Kingdom: There they make a Show of several pretended Reliques, as the Body of *St. Firmin*, first Bishop of *Amiens* in *Dio- clesian's* time, of *St. Dominick*, of *St. John the Baptists* head. *Amiens* had during an Age or two, its particular Counts, but they were deprived of their Sovereignty by *Lewis the Burly*, about the year 1109.

*Pequigni*, three leagues almost from *Amiens*, upon the same River, is remarkable for the Death of *William*, surnamed *Long-sword*, Duke of *Normandy*, whom *Baldwin* Count of *Cambray*, or *Arnoul* Count of *Flanders* caused to be killed there: And for defeat of the English, who



were known in a Pass from the French, because they could not pronounce the word *Pequigni*, as directly as a Frenchman born. Add to this, that the Steward of the Bishoprick of *Amiens* bears the Title of *Vidame* of *Pequigni*.

Four leagues South of *Amiens*, is the Principality of *Conti* upon the River *Celle*, and five miles more Eastwards the Principality of *Poix* upon the same River; they are both small, but very pleasant, because of the many Woods and Game with which they abound.

Two leagues East of *Poix*, on the Frontier of *Normandy*, three miles North-west of *Amale*, lies the Burrough and Lordship of *Lignerès*, now famous for having given its name to the Family of that late Traytor *Bartholomew of Grandval*, who at the instigation of the French King, and his Councillors, would have murdered His Majesty *William III. King of Great Britain*.

Seven leagues almost on the North of Amiens, lyes the strong Town of *Dourlens*, or *Dou-lens*, *Dominicum* upon the *Authie* near the borders of *Artoys*: It was already a Strong-hold in 931, when the French K. *Raoul* took it upon one *Heribert*. It belonged afterwards to the Counts of *Ponthieu*; but was yielded by the Countess *Mary* to *Lewis VIII* in 1225, and since alienated from the Crown of France, and given to *Philip III*. Duke of *Burgundy*, in 1435, and reunited to it in 1463, *Antony* of *Bayencourt* enjoyed *Dourlens* in the last Age, but the King's Attorney seized on it, in 1559, and caused it to be reunited to the Royal Demesne. *Dourlens* is divided into high and low Town, both very well fortified.

Вітєнх



## Vimeux.

**S**amson the Father confounds this Countrey with that of Ponthieu; but more modern Geographers, as Robbe and Samson the Son distinguish them, and the Learned Collections of Adrian de Valois, in his *Notitia Galliarum*, are agreeable to it. According then to the last *Pagus Vimeiacus*, the Land of Vimeux is included between *Amienois* and *Normandy*, from which it is separated by the River *Bresle*, call'd likewise *Aucia*, and betwixt the Sea and the River *Somme* that divides it from the County of Ponthieu: It's extended above 14 leagues East and West, from *Molien la Vidame* in *Amienois* to *Cayeux* on the Sea-coast, and 5 North and South from *S. Valery* to *Bauchen* upon the *Bresle*. *S. Valery* the Capital is seated on a Hill, near a Bay made by the mouth of the *Somme*, and call'd *S. Valery sur mer*, to distinguish it from another Sea-town in *Normandy*, call'd *S. Valery en Caux*, or *S. Valery les Plains*. It's Port is not extreemly good, because of the great quantity of Downs that are about it; neither are *Cayeux Cadocum*, *Augusta* better, tho they seem to have formerly been of some Consideration. Notwithstanding the Countrey is fill'd with a vast number of Villages and good Burroughs, whereof the chief are *Bauchen*, *Garnaches*, a Marquizate, *Anssennes*, and *Sennerpont*, all upon the *Bresle*: *Arguel*, *Rienconr*, *Oysemont*, *Bailleur*, whence *John de Bailleur*,



*Bailleul*, that became King of Scotland, was either Lord, or Ordinary, or of another *Bailleul* in the Countrey of *Dieppe*.

## Ponthien.

**T**His County, included between the Rivers *Somme* and *Canche* on the South and North, the Ocean on the West, *Amienois* and *Artois* on the East, is about nine leagues East and West, and nine or ten North and South: It is watered with many fine Rivers, as the *Somme*, the *Maye*, *Authie*, &c. It was in former Ages but thinly inhabited, because of the many Woods that almost took up the whole Countrey, but its now very thick peopled, tho' there be still several Forrests. This County has been often given in Portion to the Children of the French Kings, and has had before its particular Counts, since the tenth Century. In 1279, *Eleanor* of *Castile*, Heiress of *Ponthien*, was Married to *Edward I.* King of *England*, and brought this County to these Monarchs, which was the occasion of many bloody Wars.

*Abbeville*, upon the *Somme*, is the Capital of this County, eight or nine leagues Northwest of *Amiens*. It is one of the biggest and strongest in this Province, and some will say it was never taken, for which reason they call it the Faithful, or the *Virgin City* of that Countrey: It has a Bailiwick, Presidial, five Gates, twelve or thirteen great Parishes, and several Monasteries.

Monasteries  
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Regular  
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of the Cistercians  
of the Order  
of the Benedictines  
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of the Dominicans  
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of the Franciscans  
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of the Augustines  
of the Order  
of the Carmelites  
of the Order  
of the Trinitarians  
of the Order  
of the Holy Spirit  
of the Order  
of the Visitation  
of the Order  
of the Mercy  
of the Order  
of the Holy Trinity  
of the Order  
of the Holy Cross  
of the Order  
of the Holy Name  
of the Order  
of the Holy Heart  
of the Order  
of the Holy Blood  
of the Order  
of the Holy Sweat  
of the Order  
of the Holy Tears  
of the Order  
of the Holy Spittle  
of the Order  
of the Holy Urine  
of the Order  
of the Holy Excrement



Monasteries. The River *Somme*, and the small River *Cardon*, which discharges it self into it, make it a great Trading Town, and give it the conveniency of exchanging its Linnen, Cloth, Wooll, and Corn for other Commodities, that are brought in Boats from the Sea into the very Town. 'Tis uncertain in what time this City was built, for I find no mention made of it before the tenth Century, That *Hugh Capet* gave it in Portion to his Daughter *Giselle*. However, it seems by the Original of the Name of *Abbeville*, *Abbattis villa*, that it was built by some Abbot of *St. Riquier*, for there is yet a Town of that Name two leagues North-east, upon the River *Cardon*, which Opinion *Adrian de Valois* seems to confirm.

*Abbeville* has lately produced the best Geographers of France, as *Nicolas Sanson*, who dyed 1667, *William Sanson* his Son, and *Peter du Val*, who are yet alive for ought I know, and the Jesuit *Philip Briet* who died in 1669. It is said, that in 1636. some Women disguised in Mens Cloaths fought the Spaniards near *S. Riquier*, and brought away two of their Colours.

Nine miles North-west of *Abbeville*, on the northside of the mouth of the *Somme*, is the Sea-port Town *Le Crotoy*. Two leagues South-east of *Abbeville*, is an important passage in an Island formed by the same River, called *Pont-de-Remi*, near to which are to be seen the remains of one of *Cæsar's Camps*. Rue upon the *Maye*, five leagues North-west of *Abbeville*, is a strong Town by reason of its situation, being environ'd with Marshes, and having a Pond or Lake on the East-side.



Near the source of the same River, is the Burrough of *Crecy*, which gives its name to a Forrest hard by, but is much more famous for a Battel fought there between the *English* and the *French*, in 1346, King *Edward III.* coming into *Ponthieu*, of which he was Lord, encamped at the Village of *Crecy*: King *Philip* of *Valeis* came to encounter him on the 26<sup>th</sup>. of *August*, But the last was totally routed, and left 30000 Foot upon the spot, and 1200 Horse; besides that, he lost fourscore Colours, and the Flower of his Nobility, as *John* of *Luxenburg*, King of *Bohem.* *Charles* Count of *Alencon*, the King's Brother, *Raoul* Duke of *Lorrain*, the Counts of *Flanders*, *Harcourt*, and *Sanferre*, the Dauphin of *Viennois*, &c: But the greatest mischief for the *French*, was, that a Fog having kept them from the sight of the Enemy till nine or ten a Clock in the morning, the *English* in the mean while planted the Colours they had taken from them upon a height, which the deceived *French* taking for their own, resorted to them, and received a greater overthrow than the first day. Their dead Bodies were Interred by King *Edward's* order, at *Monstreuil*, and the burying lasted 3 days.

Crecy had formerly a Royal House, which Ebroin Mayor of the Palace besieg'd, when he Warr'd against K. Thierry, and his Mayor Leudesius; and took both the King and the Town, as Fredegarius relates. The Town of Monstreuil is situated upon the Canche, nine leagues north of Abbeville, five North west of Crecy, and three East of the Sea. It was but at first a Village, which encreased into a Town by the building of



of a Castle and of a Monastery, by S. Salvius Bishop of Amiens, where he would be Interr'd, and whence it has gotten the name of *Monasterium*, *Monstreuil*, or *Monstrelet*. Besides, there are still two Ancient Abbeys of St. Bennets Order, one of Monks, and the other of Nuns. King Philip I. having divorced from him his Wife Berthe, sent her away to this Town, upon which he assigned her Dowry, and where she dyed in 1093. *Monstreuil* is divided into upper and lower Town, and has a strong Citadel and Bailiwick: Great Boats can go up the River, by the help of the Tide, to this Town.

### Boulenois.

**T**HIS County is but 13 or 14 leagues long, North and South, and about 7 broad East and West. It was Anciently inhabited by the *Morini*: as well as *Terraane*, if it be true that *Boulogne* is the *Gesoriacum* of *Pliny* and *Ptolemy*. It is still the most mountainous part of *Picardy*, especially along the Coast, which render them almost inaccessible: However, it does not want either Woods or Rivers, and affords such a good race of Horses, that the Inhabitants can furnish 3000 Troopers. It was erected into a County together with *St. Paul*, *Guines* and *Artois*, by Charles the Bald, Emperor and King of France, when he marryed his Daughter *Fu-dith* to *Baldwin Ironside* Count of *Flanders*, in 863.



863. The County of *Boulogne* was successively enjoyed by several illustrious Houses, which allied themselves at one time or other with the Kings of *England*, *France* and *Portugal*, but finally remained to the Counts of *Auvergne*. The last of them called *Bertrand* the second, exchanged it with *Lewis XI.* for the County of *Lauragais*, in 1477; and that this Agreement might never be broken, the shrewd King presented our Lady of *Boulogne* with it. In 1544, *Henry VIII.* King of *England* took *Boulogne*, fortified the lower Town of it, and built several Forts in the Countrey; but seeing that the keeping of this Town would cost him much more than it was worth, he agreed with the French King, *Henry II.* to restore it to him, for the Sum of 80000 Crowns, to be paid in eight Years. This Treaty was concluded in 1549, but I do not hear that it was ever performed as to the paying of the money.

*Boulogne*, Capital of this County, is a Seaport, formerly Renown'd for being the ordinary passage from *Gaul* into *Great Britain*, but at present not very commodious; some say that it was spoil'd by a Bank that the Emperor *Maximinian* caus'd to be rais'd before it. It is divided into upper and lower Town, and seated upon the River *Liane*, sixteen leagues north of *Abbeville*. It has a Bishoprick, suffragan to *Rheims* since the year 1566, nine years after that *Teroanne* was razed: But *De Valois* pretends that the Bishoprick was rather restor'd to that City, or fix'd in it, than instituted anew, because those Prelates were styl'd Bishops of *Boulogne* and *Teroanne*, that the first as well as the last are call'd *Civitas Moris*.

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*Morinorum*, and that the name of *City* is never given by Ancient Authors, but to an Episcopal See. There was formerly near the Haven an *Octogone* Tower, called in French *la Tour d'Ordre*, and by the English *the Old man*; its said to have been built by *Cæsar*. It was eighty foot in Circuit, and *Charlemaign* looking upon it as a fit place for a Beacon, caused it to be repaired; but his Successors given either to Wars or to Pleasures, suffer'd it to decay so far, that it fell some 20 years ago. The most considerable Buildings of *Boulogne* are the Citadel, the Cathedral Church of our Lady, to whom the French Kings at their coming to the Crown, are bound to offer a Heart of pure Gold, weighing 2000 golden Crowns. There are besides the Parochial Churches of *St. Nicholas* and *St. Joseph*, the Abby of *St. Willmore*, and the Palace where the Bailly keeps his Seat: Some take *Boulogne* for the *Portus Iccius* of *Cæsar*; but *Adrian de* proves that it is the *Gesoriacum* of *Pliny*, which name about *Constantine* the Great's time chang'd into that of *Bononia*.

The other Towns and considerable Burroughs are *Bournonville*, *Monthulin* upon or near the *Liane*, four or five leagues East of *Boulogne*, *Ambletense*, a Sea-port two leagues north of the same; its the same that *Beda* calls *Amflect* or *Amflect*, which denotes a place where the Sea ebbs and flows. *Estaples*, *Strapula*, upon the mouth of the *Canche*, almost six leagues south of *Boulogne*. *De Katols* believes it to be the *Portus Iccius* of *Cæsar*, because *Protony* distinguishes *Portus Iccius* from *Gesoriacum*, and puts them in the Countrey of the *Morini*. 'Tis a small Town well



well fortified, famous for being the Native Countrey of *James le Pieux*, who for his Learning did deserve the Praises of the Roman Catholics, tho he was one of the chief Promoters of the Reformation.

### The Recover'd Countrey.

**T**Hat which the French call *Pais Reconquis*, is a small Tract of Land that has not above five leagues in length North and South, and as much East and West; where it is broadest, coming from *Beaulogne*, you enter into the Principality of *Ardres*, *Arda* or *Ardea*, the chief Town of which is seated upon a Hill, and divided into upper and lower, both well fortified. Before the year 1067, it was but a Village erected into a Town out of the Ruines of the Castle of *Selnesse*, by one *Arnoul* Lord of that place, or as others pretend, by one *Arnold*, Lord of *Ardres*, with the Consent of *Baldwin* Count of *Guines*, by reason of the great number of Shepherds who resorted to that place for its excellent Pasture-ground. In 1520 *Francis I.* and *Henry VIII.* had an Interview near this Town; their Court was so brisk, and their Attendants so richly adorn'd, that the place is yet called, *The Field of the Golden Cloth*. Cardinal *Albert* of *Austria* took this Town in 1596, but restored it to the French King *Henry IV.* three years after, by the Treaty of *Peruins*.

*Quimper* is a small Town 3 miles North-west of



of *Ardes*, and above 3 leagues from the Sea. It has the title of a County, and formerly the Towns and Burroughs of *Ardes*, *Fiennes*, *Wit-  
fant*, *Andria*, *Bredonarde*, *Sangatte* and *Colemude* depended on it. *Sifri* a Dane took it from the Monks of *Sithiu* or *S. Omer*, and made homage of it to *Arnoul* Count of *Flandres*, who countenanced him. Before the French took it from the English, it was environ'd with strong Forts as *Blanes*, and *St. Inglevert*. It came in the hands of the English under King *John* of *France*, the same way that a late Conquerer has usurped so many Towns. The Governour of *Guisnes* being gone to a Festival of the Knights of the Star, *Edward* K. of *England* bought the Town from his Lieutenant. There was then a Truce between the two Monarchs, and therefore the wronged King *John* would have resented this match as a breach of it: But *Edward* answered, That this Assertion was contrary to the doctrine of late *Philip* of *Valois*, the French Kings Father, for when an English Traytor that would have sold to him the Town of *Calice* was discovered, this Prince coldly answered, that such Negotiations did not break a Truce.

The County of *Oye* is separated from that of *Guisnes* by a small River, which *Duchesne* calls a Channel drawn from the Sea. 'Tis a Countrey of about 4 leagues in length, and 3 in breadth. Modern Geographers speak of some wavering Marshes and swimming Islands between this Countrey, and that of *Guisnes*.

*Calice* is now one of the strongest Towns, and the very Key of *France* towards *England*; for its Fortifications consist in nine great Bastions,



ons, besides those of the Cittadel, and several Out-Works lin'd with stone. It has a double Ditch, very large and deep, that can be filled with the River *Hames*, that runs along its Walls. There is also a Marsh and several Brooks, that render the approach of this Town very difficult; neither can one go to it, but upon the Causey or madeway, called the Bridge of *Nienulay*. As to the Haven, its Entry is defended by a Fort call'd the *Risban*, and it is divided into two; the smaller is called *Cadegray*, the bigger is shut up by two Moles faced with stone. Five years ago the present French King began to build a Mole, upon great piles droven into the sand, beneath the low-Water-mark, which will be 30 yards wide, and make an Harbour fit to receive third or fourth Rates Men of War, whereas a good Merchant-man cannot get into the present Havens: This Work, if once finish'd, will be of dangerous consequence to the Trade of *England*, the rather for that the Port of *Dover* is not capable of receiving Men of War, at least but at high Spring-Tides. However, it is not yet so far advanc'd, but a stop may be put to it by our Men of War. *Calice* is not very big, but well built, and well Peopled; there is a Town-House, the Palace of the Bailly, the Tower of the Watch, and several Churches: *Calice* was but a Burrough before the Year 1228, that it was Wall'd in by *Philip Count of Boulogne*. In 1347 King *Edward III.* besieged *Calice*, which *John of Vienne*, its Governour defended 10 or 11 months; but being almost starved, and having no hope of Relief, he proffered at last to Capitulate, which the King of *England*



land refused, unless six of the chief Citizens brought him the Keys bear-headed and bare-foot, with Ropes about their necks, and upon that condition, that he should have an Absolute power over their Lives. Tho these Conditions seem'd somewhat hard, and that those upon whom the Lot of his Embassy should fall, might scarce hope to escape with their Lives, however there were Men so Zealous for the publick Good as willing to undertake it: but the Generous Monarch of *England* sent them back without doing them any wrong. The Town was Peopled with *English*, and remained in their power 200 and ten years. The *French* had not been Masters of it 38 years, when the Cardinal of *Austria* took it from them in 1596, but he restored it by the formentioned Peace of *Kervins*.

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CHAP.



## CHAP. VI.

## Of Normandy, especially the Higher.

**T**HO' this Government comprehends only the Ancient Duchy and Peerdom of Normandy, and the French Vexin has been cut off from it, however 'tis still one of the biggest of France, being extended East and West from Amale to the Coasts of Gascony above 62 leagues, and 40 three South and North-east from Alençon on the Frontier of Maine, to the Town of Ev near the Coasts of Picardy.

As the Kingdom of France was very large under the first Race of their Kings, since Clovis the great, and that youngest Sons had a share in the Succession to the Sovereignty; so this Realm was divided into two great parts, whereof the most Easterly, which reached from Picardy and Champagne to Upper Germany, or from the Meuse to the Rhine, and beyond that River was called *Austrie*, or *Austrasie*. The other more Westerly extended it self from Normandy the Isle of France, and Beausse to the Coasts of that Kingdom, and was called *Neustria*, *Neustria*, sometimes *Neptricum*, and in French *Neustrie*. It was at first included between the Meuse and the Loire, then between the Seine and the Loire, and at last this name was appropriated



ted to the second *Lyonnoise*, considered as a part of the Kingdom of *Soissons*, until the Year 912, that *Raoul*, or *Rollo*, a Swedish or Norwegian Prince, having wholly subdued this Province, embraced the Christian Faith, and settled himself there with the consent of *Charles the simple*, King of France, and then *Neustrie* took the name of *Normandy* from its Northern Conquerors.

The Normans began to shew themselves under *Charlemaign*, by Privateering in *Low-Saxony*, *Freeze*, and the Northern Coasts of France. Their strength encreas'd through the Weakness of *Lewis the meek*, for then they began to extort Contributions from the *Freezons*: But the Civil Wars of *Lewis's* Sons made them so bold as to undertake Conquests, which they at last performed under *Charles the simple*.

This Ancient Dukedom has the *Isle of France* on the East, the *Brittish Sea* on the North and West, *Britaign* and the Government of *Orleanois* on the South. It is divided into upper and lower: The first contains the Roman *Vexin*, the Countries of *Roumois*, *Caux*, and *Bray*, and the Bishoprick of *Evreux*: The second includes the Diocesses of *Lizieux*, *Bayeux*, *Coutance*, *Avranches*, and *Seez*. The Soil is every where fruitful enough in Corn, Meadows, Hemp, Apples, Pears, and all sorts of Fruits. There are a great many Forrests, and several Iron-mines, but there grows little or no Wine, except it be on the Southern parts towards the *Isle of France* and *Orleanois*. This Province has many Noblemen, but the Countrey people is extraordinary Oppressed, because the *Tailles*, or Impositions are

not



not real, or upon Lands, but personal; so that a Peasant that has nothing to live upon but his Spade, must pay to the King ten or twelve Crowns yearly for his head, and proportionably if he have a Family, tho' he be not the Richer for that. True it is, that Provisions are cheap enough, especially Fish along the Sea-coast, and every where Cyder, which is the ordinary drink of the Countrey people; their chief Trade consists in Wood, Coals, Linnen and Cattle, and some Herbs fit for Dyers, which the Inhabitants call *Garence*, *Guesde*, and *Pastel*.

The chief Rivers of Normandy, besides the *Seyne*, that has been mentioned elsewhere, are the *Bresle* that comes from the borders of *Picardy*, washes *Aumale*, *Blangis*, and falls into the Ocean at *Eu*, the *Sart* that runs into the Sea at *Criel*, the *Argues* that receives the *Eaune*, and discharges it self into the Sea at *Dieppe*, the *Sye* and the *Seane* running to the Ocean not far from the said Town; then you find the *Aubette*, the *Robec*, the *Andelle*, and the *Epte*, which run all into the *Seyne*, on the north-side of it. On the South-side you meet with the *Eure*, which comes from some Lakes in *Beauce*, on the Frontler of the Bishoprick of *Seez*, receives the *Vaupillon*, the *Loupe*, washes *Chartres*, receives the *Gas* and the *Blaise* near *Dreux*; then encreased with the *Vegre* and the *Itou*, that goes thro' *Evreux*, falls into the *Seyne* at *Pont-de-Larche*: The *Rille* comes from a Forrest in the Diocess of *Seez*, hides it self into the Earth near *la Ferriere*; then coming out, washes *Beaumont le Roger*, receives the *Carenton*, and runs into the Sea two leagues North of *Ponteau de Mer*. The *Touques*,  
re-



receives the *Lezon*, the *Orbec*, washes *Lisieux*, *Pont l'Evesque*, receives the *Calonne*, and falls into the Sea near a Town of the same name, call'd *Touques*. The *Dive* receives the *Ante*, the *Lesson*, the *Meance*, the *Vye*, and discharges it self into the Sea near *St. Sauveur*. The *Orne* comes likewise from the Bishoprick of *Seez*, and being encreased with the *Nereau*, and *Drance*, washes *Pont d'Olly*, *Tury*, receives the *Oudon* near *Caen*, and falls into the Sea at *Estrehan*. Along the same Sea-coast you find the *Seille*, which runs into the Ocean between *Gray* and *Barnieres*: Then the *Anre* and the *Drome*, or *Dronine*, which lose themselves into a great Ditch called *Fossé du Soucy*. The little River of *Triviers*, the *Vire* and the *Carenten* run all three into a Bay of the Ocean called *Groin de la Dune*; the *Vire* is the longest of all, washes *St. Lo*, and receives the *Elle*; the *Carenten* is encreased with the Rivers of *Bauptey*s and *Ouve*: Betwixt *la Hogue* and *Barfleur* runs the River *Sart*, and farther on the North that of *Cherbourg*. On the West coast you meet with the *Souille* that receives the *Heronille*, and the *Burd*, which go by *Coutances*. The *See* and the *Ardes* fall both into the Bay of *Avranches*.

I would begin here the particular description of this Province, were it not that I think my self Obliged to say something of the first Dukes of *Normandy*, from whom our Kings of *England* are descended, and by the way to show the just claim they may still lay to that Noble Dukedom their Ancient Patrimony. *Raoul* having settled himself in *Normandy*, not only by Conquest and force of Arms, but also by the volun-



voluntary yielding of *Charles the simple*, and his Marriage with *Gisele*, Niece to that King, gave good Laws to his Subjects: Among others, that the Poor might have right done to them without any Expence, he ordered, that any Murderer, Robber, Incendiary, or any one that should pursue another with a naked Sword, should be stop'd, and brought before a Justice, without any other Warrant than the Out-cry of the Wronged Person. This is the Origin of what the Normans call the Clamour of *Haro*, which they make use of, when they think themselves wrong'd or oppress'd, perhaps too often, as they are accus'd to be of a litigious Temper. Howsoever it may be, *Haro* seems to be an abridged word for *Ha Raoul*, as tho' they would still implore the Justice of their first Duke. *Raoul* took the name of *Robert* at his Baptism, was succeeded by *William I.* surnamed *Longsword* in 917, or 920, and was succeeded by three Princes, named *Richard*, *Robert II.* Son to the last of them in 1028. was Father to our *William the Conquerour*, whom he got from *Helen*, Grand Daughter to *Edmond Ironside*, one of our Saxon Kings, If we may believe *Thomas Rudborn*, who quotes several Authors for this History. Thus *England* and *Normandy* were quietly enjoyed by our Monarchs, till the French King *Philip August* taking hold of the Civil War, which the English Barons raised against King *John*, deprived him of his Dutchy of *Normandy*, under pretence that he had caused his Nephew *Arthur* to be murther'd. It was reconquered by *Henry V.* but lost again under *Henry VI.* during the Civil Wars between the Houses



ses of York and Lancaster. However, it remains uncontested, that this Province has been possess'd successively by fourteen Dukes of the same Race, six of whom were Kings of England.

I must not forget that the Normans are Witty and Ingenious, especially in making Establishments, which their Envious Neighbours would find fault with, and on that account stain them with Treachery. Their Countrey is so great and so Populous, that there are reckon'd a hundred Towns, and a hundred and fifty considerable Burroughs: So that the Reader may not expect I should describe them all, but only such as are most Eminent, and of which some Particulars are come to my knowledge.

### Norman Vexin.

THIS Countrey was anciently inhabited by the *Vellocasses*, *Velocasses* or *Belacasses*, whose Territories reached from the *Andelle* to the *Oyse*; but after the Normans had conquer'd the best part of *Neustrie*, it was divided into two parts, whereof that which obey'd the French King was called the *French*, and the other the *Norman Vexin*. *De Valois* relates a remarkable thing, namely, that the feuds between these two People are yet as great, as if they were still Enemies, and had not the same Master: so that they seldom marry together, nor will they Trade, or have any thing



thing common one with another. The *Norman Vexin* confines upon the *Isle of France*, from which it is separated by the *River Epte*. The first considerable Town you meet with is *Gisors*, situated upon the same River, fourteen leagues North-west of *Paris*, with a *Bailiwick* resorting to the *Parliament of Rouen*. Under the Reign of *Philip I.* King of *France*, *William the red* King of *England* took it from a Knight call'd *Payen*, and fortified it in 1228. *Henry III.* King of *England* had an Interview between this Town and *Trie* with *Philip August* King of *France*, upon the news of the taking of *Jerusalem* by *Saladin*: And having consulted about the means to recover the Holy Land, they resolve to take the Cross, together with many other Princes, in memory of which they erected a Cross in the Field where they had made this Agreement, and promised one another to leave off their differences till their return.

*Pont de l'arche* *Pons archis*, eleven leagues almost West of *Gisors*, and seven miles South of *Rouen*, is an important passage upon the *Seyne*, near the fall of the *Eure* into it, and therefore it has a particular Governour. It was the first Town which surrendered itself to *Henry IV.* after his coming to the Crown in 1589. *Du Chesne* esteems that *Pont de l'arche* is the Castle *Piste*, which *Charles the bald* built to withstand the Incursions of the Normans; but most of the other Geographers believe it to be one of these two neighbouring places *Pistres* or *Posez*. *Rouen*, nine leagues South-east of the mouth of the *Seyne*, and above thirty North-west of *Paris*,



*Paris*, situated upon the same River, and is one of the biggest, richest, and most populous Cities in that Kingdom, and the Capital of *Normandy*. Its Archbishop calls himself Primate of that Province, hath the six Bishops of it under him, and does not acknowledge the Metropolitan of *Lyons* since the Year 1457. The Cathedral Church under the Name of our Lady has ten Dignitaries, fifty Canons, eight petty Canons, and a great number of Chaplains: It has three great Towers; the first call'd the Tower of *St. Romain* is cover'd with Lead, and has one of the finest Steeples in the World, with 500 fifty steps; the second is call'd the Butter-Tower, built out of that Money which Cardinal *George of Amboise*, the Pope's Legate in *France*, gather'd from the Inhabitants to give them leave of eating Butter in Lent; the third Tower is all made of Wood, and rais'd upon a Porch with great Art. *Duchesne* speaks of two great Bells; the first in the Tower of *St. Romain*, is one of the biggest in *France*, and bears the name of *George of Amboise*, who caus'd it to be made; the other is in the Wooden Tower. In this Church are also to be seen the *Mausoleys*, or Sepulchres of the Dukes of *Normandy*, and of the Archbishops of that City, a white Marble Statue of the French King *Charles V.* and that of the Count of *Bedford*, who was Protector of *France* during 13 years, under our *Henry VI.* He is represented on Horseback, upon his Monument, in the Chappel of the Virgin *Mary*, behind the great Altar. *Lewis XI.* visiting this Church, some body told him, It was a shame that so great an Enemy to his Crown



should have so fine a Tomb, and that he ought to be removed from thence: No, answered the French King, It is well that he lyes there, for if he were alive he would frighten us all away.

There is likewise a Chappel under the name of the Saints Innocents, where is represented St. Romain, Archbishop of Rouen in the sixth Century, with a Dragon he is said to have overcome. This History is too remarkable not to be mention'd, and tho it be perhaps related in a fabulous manner, however there must needs be something of truth, because of a Custom that is still kept to this day. In the Forrest of Rouvray near the Suburbs of Rouen was a Snake, which much annoyed Men and Beasts: The Pious Prelate resolved to rid his Citizens of this Monster, and as no body was willing to accompany him, he got two condemned Criminals, a Thief and a Murtherer, to go along with him; as soon as the Serpent perceived them, it ran to devour them, whereupon the Thief took the flight, but the Saint not at all frightened, threw his stole at the Monsters neck, which so well twisted it self about it, that the fettered Monster was forced to follow the Murderer, who brought him as a tyed Dog into the great market of the Town, where it was burn'd, and its Ashes thrown into the River.

It would be uncivil to ask whether the Criminal was pardoned: But St. Owen did more, for being Lord Chancellor to King Dagobert, and Successor to St. Romain, he obtained from his Master, that a Fortnight before Ascension day,



days, four Canons with their four Chaplains should have leave to visit the King's Prisons, to supersede all extraordinary proceedings against them, to hear their Confessions, and then to deliver whomsoever they pleased, which is performed every year on the said Ascension day, with a great deal of Ceremony. The released Prisoner is oblig'd to nothing else, but to appear the seven years next following, to accompany the new delivered, and St. Romains Coffin in a solemn Procession.

On the great Gate of this Church, is a Triumphant Arch, representing the French King Henry IV. driving Lyons and Wolves out of his Flock: On the other side are the League, bound up in Chains, and gnawing its Fetters, and the King of Spain standing near a Bell, with a mournful and Heart-sick Countenance.

Besides the Cathedral, Rouen with its Suburbs has 35 Parochial Churches, and 24 Monasteries, the whole Diocess extending it self thro' the third part of Normandy, and comprehending both Vexins, all Caux, Bray, and Roumois, 27 Rural Deanships, 1388 Parishes, and 26 or 31 Abbies, under 6 Archdeacons. The French King Philip the fair, founded there a Court of Exchequer, in 1286. which Lewis XII. made Sedentary in 1499, and Francis I. endow'd it with the name and privilege of a Parliament. There are other Courts of Justice besides that, as a *Bailiwick* and *Presidial*, a Chamber of Accounts, a Chamber of the Mint, which coyns Money with the Letter B. There is a Bridge built upon Boats, which is look'd upon as a Master-piece of Art, because



it rises and goes down with the Tide, tho' it be paved, and 270 steps long: And therefore Rouen lyes very conveniently, for the flood brings into its Key Vessels of 200 Tunns, and makes it one of the Richest and most trading Cities in France. Rouen is not only strong by its situation, but also well fortified with Castles, Bulwarks, Bastions, Rampiers, Terrasses, lined with Freestone, large Ditches into which fall the small Rivers of Robec, Aubette and Renelle, after they have passed thro' several Water-mills.

It's uncertain whether the Latin name of Rouen *Rotomagus* comes from the Idol *Roth*, or *Rothon*, Worshipp'd there, or from the small River *Rodobeccus*, *Robec*; so that it should be a compounded name, signifying the Town of the God *Roth*, or of the Red Brook. The time of its foundation, and the name of its Founder, are still more uncertain, but sure it is that Rouen was already in *Cesar's* time the head of the *Veloicasses*, that is mention'd by *Protony*, *Ammian Marcellin*, and the Tables of *Theodosius the Great*, under the name of *Rotomagus*. It had formerly an Amphitheatre, and three fortifi'd places, viz. the Palace, the Castle, now call'd Mount *S. Catherine*, or Fort *S. Catherine*, and the Bridge. This City has produc'd several Men of Parts, as that great and incomparable Protestant Divine *Samuel Bochart*, the Learned *Emery Bigot*, who has publish'd several Writings of the Fathers, amongst others the Epistle of *S. Chrysostom* to *Casarius*. The Family of *Basnage*, renowned for Lawyers, *Peter Cornille*, the Prince of the Tragick Poets among

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among the French, Thomas Corneille his Brother, and Pradon, two other Drammatick Poets of Note, Mr. De Fontenelles one of the Wittiest Writers in France, Mrs. Bernard, who has lately carried the Prize of Poetry in the French Academy. I may well also give a place among these Ingenious, to Mr. Le Moine, Author of the Gentlemans Journal.

### Caux.

**T**His Bailiwick North, and North-east of Rouen, is esteemed to be the Land of the Ancient *Galeti*, and is included between the Rivers *Seyne* and *Bresle*. *Cæsar*, who makes the *Seyne* the limits of the *Celtæ*, ranks the *Kelotæ* and the *Galeti* among the *Belgæ*; but by the division of *August* they were included in the second *Lyonnoise*, with their Capital *Rotomagus*. *Adrian de Valois* reckons nine Rivers in this Countrey, viz. the *Vitefleur*, *Guinefleda*, the *Dun*, *Danns*, the *Seane* or *Saint*, *Sedaps*, the *Beune*, *Belnauin*, the *Sie*, or *Sey*, *Seda*, the *Varennes*, *Quarenna*, the River of *Dieppe* or *Angues*, *Deppa* or *Atra*, the *Eaunes*, *Heldona* or *Eina* and *Alna*, the *Iere*, *Eara*, which *Strabon* calls the *Sart*, and the *Ou*, or *Bresle* *Aucas*.

Through the whole Countrey of *Caux*, the Eldest Sons both of the Gentry and Common People are Heirs of all, and there is but a small Portion allow'd for the Susterance of the



Youngest Sons and Daughters, which Custom seems to be deriv'd from the Ancient Normans, who used it to maintain the Justice of their Families, and to make their Youngest Sons look to themselves, and seek their Fortune with the dint of their Sword: And this perhaps was the Cause they conquer'd *Austria*.

Caudebec, *Calidum*: Beccum, that is, warm Rivulet, because its built upon a small Brook a mile from the *Seyne*, and three leagues East of its mouth, is a Town renow'd for several Manufactures, especially Hats. Three leagues West of *Caudebec*, upon another Brook near the *Seyne*, is the small Town of *Lillebonne*, which is taken by *Sigebert* and *Ordericus Vitalis* for *Jubibona Caletorum*, Capital of the Country of *Caux*, but *De Valois* denies it: Howsoever, it gives still its name to a branch of the House of *Lorraine*. *William* the Conqueror call'd either a Council of the Prelates of *Normandy*, in 1086. A mile South of *Lillebonne* lyes the Lordship of *Tancarville* upon the *Seyne*. *Tancarville* or rather *Tancred Villa*, for it seems to have gotten its name from that famous *Tancrede* Lord of *Hautreville*, who liv'd in the time of *Rollo*, or *Robert I.* Duke of *Normandy*: This Nobleman having a numerous Family, sent into *Italy* his two Eldest Sons *Deux* and *Fierabras*, who joyning with *Robert Guiscard*, and some other Norman Lords, Warr'd against the Saracens, and expell'd them out of *Sicily*; their Posterity settled themselves in that Island, conquer'd *Calabria* and *Apulia* from the Greeks, and *Tripoli* from the Barbarians, and made themselves



famous during the Wars of the Holy Land, by the Conquest of *Antioch*, which they possess'd a long time under the Title of Principality.

I find a small Town in this Province call'd *Hauteville*, near the Sea-coast, five miles South-west of *Couance*, and eleven Northwest of *Auranthes*, but cannot tell whether it was the Title of the Lord *Tancrede*.

Nine leagues West of *Candebeec*, upon another small Brook near the mouth of the *Seyne lyes Harfleur*, *Hareflotum*, so call'd, because 'tis seated on a Bay, where the Sea ebbs and flows. It was formerly a considerable Town before *Havre de Grace* was renown'd. The English took it by Storm some time before the Battle of *Azincourt*.

*Havre de Grace Franciscopolis*, two leagues West of *Harfleur*, is now one of the strongest Sea-Port Towns in France. The French Kings *Francis I.* and *Henry II.* fortified it, in 1562. Under *Charles IX.* the *Vidame of Chartres*, and *Beauvoir la Noelle* seized upon this Town for the Protestants, and having treated with Queen *Elizabeth*, deliver'd it into her hands. The French King to recover this place, flattered the Protestants so well, that they themselves help'd to besiege and retake it. The Count of *Warwick* very couragiously defended the place for some time, but the want of fresh Water, and the Plague destroy'd 3000 of his Men, forced him to Capitulate on the 28th. of July, in the same Year. *Lewis XIII.* did since encrease the Fortifications of that place, and built there a Citadel flank'd with four Royal Bastions: However as the Town is not strong on the



Land-side, it could still be taken that way, and the Cittadel block'd up. *Havre de Grace* is a pleasant and well Trading Town, with fine Buildings and Markers.

Seventeen miles North-east of *Havre de Grace* is the Ancient Burrough of *Fescamp*, famous for an Abby of Nuns founded by one *Warin-gen*, a French Lord, under *Clotaire III. Richard II. Duke of Normandy* repaired it, and would be buried there in a Stone Coffin, which since that time he caused to be filled up every Fry-day with Corn, and to be distributed to the Poor, together with twenty pence: This Abby is now possess'd by Benedictine Monks. *Fescamp* would be very fit for a Landing, for great Vessels can run aground very near the Shoar, and then go off with the Tide.

Eight leagues almost East of *Fescamp* is another Town called *St. Valery*, by the name of an Ancient Abbot. It's more considerable than *Fescamp*, but not so fit for a Descent, because of the banks that reach above a league into the Sea.

Seven leagues East of *S. Valery* is the famous Sea-port of *Dieppe*, the *Juliobona Caletorum* of *Ptolemy* and *Peutinger's* Tables, as appears by its distance from other Towns noted in the Itinerary or Journey of *Aethicus*. It is seated at the foot of Mountains, whence flows the River *Arques*, that separates the Town from the Suburbs, and forms a long and strait Haven, that can harbour a great number of Vessels, and those of 500 Tuns too, but is of hard access. The Town is pretty big, and well built, has a great Kay, a Fort called *Pollet*, and a Castle. The Inhabitants Trade into the East and West-Indies.



*Indies, England, and the Low-Countries, and are esteem'd good Mariners, and Handicraftsmen also, especially in working Ivory-horn, and Turtle-shell, and making Buffols and other Instruments of Astrology. Dieppe has been often taken and re-taken during the Wars between the English and French, since the Year 1195. The Protestants have often been Masters of it in the last Century, and it served for a place of Refuge to King Henry IV. whence it came that the Countrey thereabouts was filled with Protestants. The Citizens in imitation of Rouen have instituted Floral Games, where they give Rewards to such Poets and Orators as get the Victory over their Competitors.*

*Rigord, and William the Breton, testifie that this Town was anciently burnt by the French, and we find among the Subscriptions of the Council of Chalon in Burgundy, that of Bettio Bishop of Fliobona; but as there was never a Bishop of Dieppe, nor any other Prelate in the whole Diocess of Rouen, besides that of Rouen, so De Valois believes that it must either be Angers or Troyes.*

*Two leagues South of Dieppe and the Sea, lies the Town of Arques, upon a River of that name: In Latin Arca, or rather Arcus. It was formerly call'd Hasdant, and had a good Road; but is now more famous for a Victory that the French King Henry IV. obtained over the Duke of Mayenn, and the Leaguers, the 21<sup>st</sup>. of September 1589. This great Prince had not above 500 Horse, 1200 Footmen, and 2000 Switzers, but he posted himself so well between two Hills, and the River Bethune, that with this small Army he routed 30000 men.*

K. 5.

Dieppe



Dieppe and Arques, together with some Villages, as Pierre-Pont, Val-le-Roy, Tilly, St. Suppli and Criel upon the mouth of the Iene, between that River and Seve, constituted the Countrey of Tellan or Tdlou, Tallogus Pagus, which had excellent Salt-pits, but both the Salt-pits, and the name of the Countrey are perished.

Seven leagues East of Dieppe, lyes the Town of Eu, Aucum or Auga, near the mouth of the Bresle, or Ou, a small league from the Sea, and a Village called Tresparu Alterior Fortas that lyes upon it, and has an Abby of St. Bennets Order. The scituation of Eu is pleasant because of the Meadows that encompass it. Rollo first Duke of Normandy had planted there a Colony, but the French took the Town by Storm, and kill'd all the Males. It has the Title of a Countrey and Peerdom erected by Charles VII. in 1458. and has been possessed by several Illustrious Houses, as those of Lusignan, Brienne and Guise, since the twelfth Century, till the Year 1664. that it was given to a Daughter of the Royal Blood, the Lady of Orleans: Raoul of Brienne, second of that Name was High Constable of France, after Raoul the first his Brother was taken at the Battle of Cressy in 1346, and brought Prisoner into England: But at his return being convicted of High Treason, for favouring the English, he had his Head cut off, on the 18th. of November 1581. The Counts of Eu have given another High Constable to France, under the Name of Philip, who in the time of the French King Charles VI. brought a considerable Succour to Sigismund King of Hungary, against Bajazet II. Emperour of the Turks.

John



John Count of Nevers, and since Duke of Burgundy was with him, followed by 2000 French Gentlemen. The Battle was given near Nicopolis, a Town of Bulgary on the Danube, in 1396. but the Christians totally routed, and 600 French Gentlemen that had been taken Prisoners cut into pieces before the Eyes of the two Counts, whom he kept alive with fourteen other Lords, to get a Ransom of 100000 Duc-kats.

Nine leagues South of Eu, near the source of the Bresle is the Town of Aumale, *Alba-marna*, or *Alga-marla*, that is, *white Earth*, with the Title of Duchy and Peerdom, erected by the French King Henry II. in 1547. in behalf of Claudius of Lorrain, Youngest Son to the Duke of Guise. Aumale had its particular Counts in the twelfth Century; afterwards it fell to the share of the House of Bonbrieu, and then of the House of Lorrain. This Town is Noted for its Woollen Cloth, and an Ancient Abby of St. Bennets Order.

Eleven miles South-west of Aumale, near the source of the Epte, is the Village of Forges, renown'd for its Medicinal Waters. Longueville, *Longa villa*, or *Longus vicus*, a Burrough upon the River Sie, eight leagues North of Rouen, and four South of Dieppe, was formerly a Countey, and has been enjoyed under that Title by the famous Bertrand du Guesclin High Constable of France. In 1443. Charles VII. gave it to another great Warrior John Count of Dunois, Bastard of the House of Orleans, whence are descended the Dukes of Orleans, Longueville, who enjoy still that Lordship, erected.



sted into a Dutchy and Peerdom in 1505, by Lewis XII. Five leagues West of Longueville, and ten North-west of Rouen, lyes the Burrough of *Estouteville*, *Stota villa*, with the Title of a Dutchy, erected by Francis I. in 1534. It has given its Name to an Illustrious Family, ever since the 11th. Century: However, *Nic. Sanson* the Father has forgotten it in his Maps.

Eight leagues Northwest of Rouen, and 5 miles North of *Caudebec*, lyes the small Village of *Tvetot*, with the Title of a Principality, and formerly with that of a Kingdom, as many French Authors pretend. It was erected by the French King *Clotaire I.* to make amends for the Death of *Walter* Lord of *Tvetot*, whom he had murdered in a Church at *Soissons*: In consequence of the Law of the mannors that frees the Tenant of any subjection to his Liege Lord, if the said Lord breaks any of his Bones, or cuts any of his Members. In an Ancient Record of the Court of Exchequer in Normandy, and Patentees of the French Kings, in the Years 1392, 1401, 1450, 1464, the Lords of *Tvetot* are entituled Kings, and their Sovereignty and Independency is asserted. At the Coronation of *Mary of Medicis*, Henry IV. Queen: This Prince observing that the Master of the Ceremonies had assigned no place to *Martin du Bellay* Lord of *Tvetot*, I will, saith he, that an Honourable Place be given to my little King of *Tvetot*. Four leagues North-east of Rouen is another Village call'd *Cailly*, which seems to be some remains of an Ancient Town ruined by the Romans, that bore the Name of *Casterum*, if we believe *Duchefne*.



## Bray.

**B**RAY is an ancient Gaulish word, that marks a Marshy and Dirty place, and 'tis the beginning or end of several Towns in France. As to this Countrey, it is included between the Bailiwicks of Gisors, Rouen and Caen, and so very small, that several Geographers forget to mention it. The most considerable places are La Ferté, Fleury, and Gournay, of which I find nothing in my Authors, unless that near Gournay was given a Battle between the English and the French, in 1112, where the last were routed.

Rox.



## Roumois.

**B**etwixt the *Seyne* and the Bishopricks of *Li-  
eux* and *Evreux*, is included the small  
Countrey of *Roumois*, *Retmensis pagus*, which  
by the Original of its Name, seems to have  
made part of the Territory of *Rouen*. It  
has not above eight leagues in length, and as  
many in breadth, from *Brienne* upon the *Rille*,  
to *Quevilly* two leagues off of *Rouen*, where  
the French Protestants of that City had their  
Temple. The other Burroughs are *Quillebens*  
upon the *Seyne*, which might be extraordinarily  
fortified, *Monfort*, *Mauzy*, &c. These four Coun-  
tries last describ'd, make up the Archbishop-  
prick of *Rouen*.

## The Bishoprick of Evreux.

**T**his Diocess is included between the Ri-  
vers *Seyne* and *Carenton*, the Countrey of  
*Roumois*, and the Bishopricks of *Seez* and *Char-  
tres*: It is above 17 or 18 leagues North and  
South, and 15 or 16 East and West. It was  
the habitation of the *Aulerci Eburvices*. The  
Capital *Evreux Mediolanum Aluercorum*, is seat-  
ed upon the River *Iton*, in a fruitful Plain,  
and has several good Buildings, Churches, Ab-  
bies,



bies, and Monasteries, a Bishoprick, Bailiwick, and Presidial. 'Tis said that it was converted to Christianity by *St. Taurin*, who was the first Bishop of it. The most renowned of his Successors was *Cardinal Du Perron*, that subtle Controversist, who was a Protestant Apostate. In *Cæsar's* time the *Senonais*, the *Parisians*, and their Neighbours had a General of *Eureux* call'd *Camalogenus Auterens*, whom they oppos'd to *Lia-bienus*. *Eureux* has had its Particular Counts shued from the Dukes of *Normandy*. It was rector'd into a County and Peerdom, by *Lewis X.* in 1316, thence it came into the hands of the Kings of *Navarr*, from whom it was redeemed by the French King *Charles VI.* in 1404. erected into a Dutchy in 1569, by *Charles IX.* and given to his Brother the Duke of *Alençon*, after whose Death it was reunited to the Crown of *France*, in 1584, and exchange'd with the Duke of *Bouillon* for the Principality of *Sedan*, in 1652.

Five leagues West of *Eureux*, near a place where the *Rille* hides it self under the Ground, lyes *Beaumont le Roger*, *Bellus mons Rogerii*, with the Title of a County: It was built by a Count, call'd *Roger*, whose Name it bears, and strongly fortified. *Raoul* of *Meulan* sold it to the French King *Lewis IX.* in 1255, and *Charles III.* King of *Navarr*, to whom it did belong, as being Count of *Eureux*, exchanged both Counties with the French King *Charles VI.* for the Dutchy and Peerdom of *Nemours*, in 1404.

Two leagues North of *Beaumont le Roger* lyes the Castle of *Harbours*, *Harecoris*, formerly a good



good Burrough, which has given its Name, and the title of Counts to a Noble Family, that has been renowned since the beginning of the twelfth Century, to the end of the last Age, that it fell to the share of the House of Lorraine, by the Marriage of Renatus of Lorraine, Marquess of Elbeuf with Louise of Rieux Heiress of Harcourt, in 1574.

Vernon upon the *Seyne*, lyes 7 leagues East of *Evreux*, and ten South-east of *Rouen*. Some think that it had formerly a Royal Palace or Castle call'd *Verno* or *Vernum*, where two Councils were kept in 755, and 844. but *De Valois* proves that *Verno* was the Name of this place, and that the Royal House of *Vernum* was either *Ver* near *Crespi en Valois*, between *Paris* and *Compiègne*, or *Verneuil* upon the *Oyse*.

Seven leagues South of *Evreux* upon the River *Aure*, lyes the Burrough of *Nonancourt*, which has given its Name to Cardinal *Nicholas* of *Nonancourt*, who was famous about the end of the thirteenth Age, and descended from an Ancient House.

Five miles higher to the West, upon the same River is the Town of *Tilleres*, or *Tuillieres*; *Tegularia*, so call'd from the Stichel-stones that were prepared there: It was built by *Richard* Duke of *Normandy*, but is now almost ruined. Remounting the said River, one meets with the Town of *Verneuil*, *Vernolium*, erected into a Dutchy and Peerdom by *Lewis XIV.* in 1652. The Duke of *Alencon* took it in 1424. but the English retook it, and gave a great overthrow to the French in the same Year. The French King *Charles VII.* got it again from the  
Eng.



English by the Treachery of a Miller, who on a Sunday the 19th. of July, 1449. while the Inhabitants were at Mass, introduced the French Soldiers into the Town, by the means of a Ladder laid to the Walls. The English retired into the Castle, which was fortified with Walls and Ditches, but being immediately besieged, and without hope of Relief, were forced to surrender. Several Towns in France bear the Name of *Verneuil*, and *De Valois* observes that they are all built near Forrests, whence he conjectures that *Verne* or *Verneuil* had some such signification in the Gaulish Language.

Six leagues Westwards is a fine Forrest, and near it the Town of *Laigle Aquila* upon the *Rille*, with the title of a Barony. It got this Name from an Eagles Nest that was found upon an Oak at the time of its foundation. *Rugles*, *Rugula*, *Lyre*, *Lyra*, are lower down to the North upon the same River. *Lyre* has a famous Abby of St. Bennets Order, *Turi*, *Ibreium Castrum* is situated upon the *Aure*, between *Passi* or rather *Paci*, *Paciacum* and *Paceium*, and *Nonancourt*, six leagues South-east of *Eureux*, and is renown'd for the Victory which the French King *Henry IV.* got there over the Leaguers.

*Breteuil*, which seems to preserve the Name of the Brittons its Founder, lyes two leagues North of *Verneuil*, upon the River *Iton* near a Pond. Our *Henry II.* gave it to one *Robert* of *Montfort*, whose Sister *Amicia* sold it to the French King *Philip August*. *Damville* is seven miles Eastwards upon the same River: It was erected into a Dutchy and Peerdome by *Lewis XIII.*



XIII. in 1610. but this title is now extinguish'd, tho' the Lordship belongs still to the House of Ventadour. Duchesne mentions a place call'd *Hermainville*, where he says that Robert Count of Normandy routed *Thibaud* Count of Charres, but I could not find it, either in *Sanson* or *Du Val's* Maps.

*Conches*, Capital of a small Country call'd *Ouche*, *Pagus Ebroicus*, is seated near the source of a small River four leagues West of *Evreux*, and has a renowned Abby of Benedictin Monks under the Name of *St. Peter*, and *St. Paul*. *Louviers* upon the *Eure*, four leagues North of *Evreux*, and six South of *Rouen*, is but a small Town, however famous for the noise that some Nuns, who pretended to be possessed by the Devil, made in the beginning of this Age.

CHAP.



## CHAP. VII.

## Of Lower Normandy.

## The Bishoprick of Lizieux.

**T**His Countrey, called by the Inhabitants *Lieuvin*, and by Cæsar *Lexovii*, or *Lexobii*, is above seventeen leagues North and South, and sixteen East and West: It is included between the Sea and the Bishopricks of *Exceux*, *Serz*, and *Bayeux*, and is one of the most fruitful parts of Normandy, because of the many Rivers that water it. *Lizieux*, *Noviomagus Lexoviorum* the Capital, is situated upon the River *Lazon Talca*, six leagues South of the Sea. Its Cathedral is dedicated to St. Peter, and the first Bishop of it recorded in History, is one *Lithure*, who assisted to the first Council of Orleans under *Clotiv*, the Great, in 511: This Town is renowned for its Fountains, and Earthen Wares.

CHA The other Towns or considerable Burroughs are *Pont l'Evêque*, four leagues North of *Lizieux*: It is renowned for its Cheese. *Honfleur*, *Hanestotum*, a Sea-port Town four leagues North-east upon the mouth of the *Seyne*, over against *Harfleur*. *Pont Audemer*, *Pons Audmari*, or as the



the Vulgar write *Pontean de Mar*, built by a French Nobleman of that Name, is situated upon the *Rille* eleven leagues West of *Rouen*; and renown'd for its Saucizes, which are brought down to *Paris*. The Inhabitants had formerly their Mayor, Sheriffs, and Charters. *André* of *Villars*, since Admiral of *France*, took it for the League in 1592. But while he was fortifying it, *Bosse-rosé* one of his Captains got into *Fescamp*, and delivered it to King *Henry IV*. In 1279. a Council was kept there for the Reformation of Manners. *Brionne*, *Brionia*, formerly a strong Town with the title of a County, is seated upon the same River six leagues higher to the South. *Bernay*, *Bernacum*, upon the *Carentone*, is four leagues South-east of *Brionne*, there is an Abby of Benedictin Monks founded by *Judith*, *Richard's* of *Normandy* Dutches. *Montreuil L'argille* upon the River *Ternant* lyes five leagues South-east of *Bernay*. *Mongommery* upon a small River nine miles South-west of *Lisieux*; has the title of a County; it belonged first to the House of *Ponthieu*, thence to that of *Harcourt*, and has been enjoyed by the Dukes of *Longueville*, since the Year 1485. *Cormelles*, *Cormelia*, upon the River *Callone* four leagues North-east of *Lisieux*, has an Abby of *S. Bennet's* Order, and *Osbec* upon a River of that Name lyes four leagues South of the same Town; there is also *Tiberville*, *Tibertivilla*.

The



## The Bishoprick of Seez.

THIS Diocess, included between the Government of *Orleanois*, the Bishoprick of *Eureux*, *Lixieux*, and *Bayeux*, reaches above 25 leagues North-west and South-east, and has not above 10 or 11 leagues extent, where it is broadest. The Capital *Seez* is an Ancient Bishoprick, since in the Year 540, it had already had ten or twelve Bishops, of whom *Sigebold* is accounted the first by *Duchefne*. This Town is not mention'd by the Ancient Geographers, for ought we know, for the *Sessavii* of *Caesar* were a Maritime People, whereas the *Saji* or *Sagii*, as the French Historian call the Inhabitants of *Seez* are separated from the Sea by the *Lexovii*. The Town is situated near the source of the River *Orne*, 13 leagues South of *Lixieux*, and the Civil Jurisdiction is partly Royal, depending upon *Falaise*, and partly Ducal, resorting to *Alencon*. There has been of late Years a Contestation between a Jansenist Clergyman, and the Bishop of this Town; this Clergyman is the same who has written the *Court's Bishop*, and several other Treatises, in which he most cruelly exposes the Prelates, contrary to his Party: His Name is *Le Noir*, as I take it to be, and he was Theologal of *Seez*.

*Alencon*, *Alentio*, six leagues South-west of *Seez*, is a good and fine Town, with a Baillwick, and the title of a Duchy and Peerdom, erect-



erected by the French King Charles VI. in 1413: It lyes in a fruitful Soil between the Forests of *Estrou* and *Perseigne*, and is seated upon the *Sarte*, where that Riven receives the *Briante*, which forms a small Island within the Town. In the Parish of our Lady are to be seen the Tombs of the Dukes of *Alencon*: There was formerly a Court of Exchequer, but it was suppress'd in 1584. after the Death of Francis last Duke of *Alencon*: It is the same that would have Married Queen *Elizabeth*, and who was Crown'd Duke of *Brabant* in 1582. This Town and adjacent Territories the *Alenconois*, have been first possessed by the Posterity of these Normand Lords, who conquer'd the whole Province from the French. Robert, the last of them left but one Sister call'd *Helie*, that sold this Countrey to the French King *Philip August*. *Lewis IX.* gave it to *Peter* his fourth Son, and since it has often been the Portion of the Children of the French Kings. In 1572. the Lord of *Matignon* hinder'd there the bloody effects of *St. Bartholomew's* Murder, however, as he kept the Protestants low, the Leaguers took it 3 years after.

Four leagues North of *Seez*, is the Burrough of *Hiesmes*, which gives its Name to the Countrey thereabouts the *Hiesmois*, *Pagus Oximiensis*, or *Oximensis*, that was formerly much larger, comprehending the *Alenconois* and *Seais*. *Hiesmes Oximus* or *Oximi* seems also, to have been a considerable Town, and sometimes the Seat of the Bishops of *Seez*, who are call'd *Oximensis Ecclesiae Episcopi*.

*Argentan*, called by the Latin Geographers  
Argen-



*Argentomum*, or *Argentomagus*, lyes upon the River *Orne*, 3 leagues West of *Hiesmes*, and South-west of *Seer*.

*Palaise* upon the River *Ante*, eleven miles North-west of *Argentan*, is an Ancient Town, built in a Valley between two Hills in the form of a Boat, of which a strong Castle digged upon a Rock seems to be the Stern. It is a high, big and round Tower, that was the Palace of the Ancient Dukes of *Normandy* in time of Peace, and their place of Arms in time of War. It has gotten its Name from the Rocks upon which it is built, or wherewith its encompass'd which in the Franco-German Language are call'd *Fales* or *Fels*, and the Normans give still the Name of *Palaise* to great heaps of Snow. Tho' this place was so very strong, yet it was surrendred, upon the first Summons to *Philip August* in 1203, but having been retaken by the English, it was kept by them one of the longest of all, and defended by the Warlike *Talbot* till the Year 1450. There is yet a Fort environ'd with Ditches, and said to be built as well as the Castle by *Julius Caesar*, to be a Bulwork against the *Galli*, if they chanced to rebell during his Voyage into *Great Britain*.

Next to this Town is the Burrough of *La Guibray*, anciently *Wibray*, renown'd for its free Fair in the Month of *August*, said to be instituted by our *William the Conqueror*.

A league West of this Town is the Mountain of *Airienet*, where *Hawks*, *Bailecons*, and other Birds of Game are caught. About the Year 1570, some Peasants digging near this Moun-



Mountain, found several Medals and pieces of Brass money with the stamp of *Julius Caesar*.

In the Territory of this Town is the Village of *Arnes*, situated in a Plain, destituted of Brooks and Rivers; and the Sea however, which is ten leagues distant from it, sometimes conveys thither by subterranean Channels such abundance of Waters, that they form a Lake or Pond, furnished with several sorts of Fishes, and when the water retires, the place dries up again.

## The Bishoprick of Bayeux.

THE Inhabitants Name their own Countrey *Pays Bessin*. *Aufone* calls them *Biocasses*, and *Gregory of Tours* *Baiocassini*; they are esteem'd by *Adrian de Valois*, the *Viducasses* of *Pliny*, and the *Biducasses* of *Protony*.

The chief Town *Bayeux*, is seated upon the River *Aure*, which loses it self into a kind of Abyss, or great Ditch, a small league Southwards. This Town has the title of Viscounty, Balliwick, Presidial and Bishoprick: Its first Prelate is accounted to be *St. Exupere*, whom the Vulgar calls *St. Spire*: In this Diocels are reckon'd above 200 Parishes under 4 Archdeacons, and 16 Deanships: The Cathedral Church has 30 *Canons*, of whom 17 are *Dignitaries*: Its Towers, Clock, Gates, Columns, and



and the whole Building is sumptuous, and it bears the Name of our Lady. Its Bishop is the first Suffragan to Reuen, has Jurisdiction over Caen, Falaise, Vire, and above 100 Parishes, under 4 Archdeaconships and 16 Deanships: It has likewise a Bailiwick resorting to the Presidial of Caen. During the Civil Wars of Religion, a Protestant Captain, call'd French of Bricqueville, Lord of Colombiers, took it from the Roman Catholics, whose Worship was abolished there for a short while. William Bonnet, call'd there a Synod, about the Year 1300, he is the same who founded a Colledge in the University of Paris in 1308, that has the Name of the Colledge of Bayeux.

Caen upon the River Orne, six leagues South-east of Bayeux, and four leagues North of Estreban, on the mouth of that River, is accounted the Capital of Lower Normandy, and has a Bailiwick, Presidial, Generality, Election, and Offices for receipt of the King's Money. Some will have it to be a very Ancient Town, and that it be called *Cadomus*, for *Caji Domus*: But the Learned Bochart, one of the greatest Ornaments of France, but especially of this Town, wherein he was Minister of the Protestants, thinks not Caen to be of so great Antiquity, and derives its Name from a Saxon word made Latin, *Kadomum*, which signifies a pleasant and Godly Habitation. King William the Conqueror, and Maud of Flanders his Wife are Interred in two Abbies of *S. Benets* Orders, under the Name of St. Stephen, and the Holy Trinity, which they founded in this Town, the first of Monks, the other of Nuns. It is a very



Trading place, because great Boats can go up from the Sea to the Bridge of *St. James's* with the help of the Tide, and of its three days Fast after *Easter*, instituted by our *K. William*. The Town-house is built upon another Bridge call'd *St. Peter*: This House is a remarkable building with four Towers, and a Clock, which not only shows the Hours, but also the Increase and Decrease of the Moon. Here the *Orne* receives the *Ordon*, after it has pass'd thro' several Mills. At the upper end of the Town, is a strong Castle built upon the Rock, fortified with a Platform, having in the middle a huge square Tower, flank'd at the four Corners with four other Towers, and encompass'd with large Ditches. Besides the Courts already mention'd, there is a Vice-Admiralty, an Ecclesiastical Court depending upon the Bishop of *Bayeux*, an Overseer of Waters and Forrests, a Salt Granary, a Mint, and a University founded in the Year 1431. It has three Colledges, and is governed by a Rector, a Chantellor, the Bishop of *Bayeux*, and two Conservators of its Priviledges, the Bishops of *Lizieux* and *Caen*. There is besides an Academy or Society of Learned Men, erected some 30 years ago. 'Tis said that this Town became considerable by the Residence of the English during their Wars in *France*, and by the many Priviledges they allow'd it. In 1562. the Protestants became Masters of the Town, but the French King *Charles IX.* having gotten it from their hands by a sham Declaration of Liberty of Conscience, the Garrison of the Castle picking a Quarrel with the Inhabitants, who were Protestants



stante for the most part; the last besieged the first, and expell'd them out of that Nest, with the help of the Admiral of Coligny.

The small Countrey of *Auge, Algia*, towards the South-east, and the borders of the Bishoprick of *Seez*, is depending on this Bailiwick for the Temporal and for the Spiritual of *Lizieux*. It has gotten its Name from a Forrest hard by, and is remarkable for the fertility of its Meadows, chiefly at a place called *Bieux-ville* and *Sainte Barbe*, where Grass grows so quick, especially in the Spring, that if it be browz'd in the Evening, and one lays there a Stick, he will find it in the Morning half covered with Grass, for which reason a great quantity of black Cattel are sent thither to be fatten'd.

Nine leagues higher to the South lyes *Port d' Olly*, an important passage upon the *Orne*, where it receives the *Nereau*. Three leagues Westwards is the Town of *Conde, Condass*, where the small River *Drance* falls into the *Nereau*. Six leagues farther to the West is the Town of *Vire*, upon a River of that Name not far from its source: It has a Castle, an Election, and a Bailiwick, resorting to the Presidial of *Caen*. It has the Title of a Viscounty, and has been formerly so considerable, that its Inhabitants having stuck to the English till the Year 1450. they got Letters of Pardon from the French King *Charles VII.*

Six leagues lower to the North lyes the Town of *Torigni, Tauriniacum*, formerly very considerable, as appears by the ruines of its Walls and Gates. It has still the Title of a County,



and a Baillwick depending on the Presidial of *Garn*.

I must not forget what is observed by *Duchefne*, that the meeting of the Rivers *Aure* and *Dromine*, a small league North of *Bayeux* near the Village of *Maisons*, form a fine Haven call'd *Port Bessin*.

## The Bishoprick of Constance. or Coutance.

**T**His Countrey call'd *Constantin*, and corruptively *Coutantin*, is shut up between the Sea and the Bishopricks of *Bayeux* and *Auranches*, and is thought to be the habitation of the *Unelli* of *Cæsar*, or the *Venelli* of *Pliny*. It is above 20 leagues North and South, but hardly 12 East and West, where it is broadest. It is an Ancient County, which *Robert* Duke of *Normandy* pawn'd to his Brother *William* the red King of *England*, and soon after his whole Dutchy for the sum of 10000 Marks of Silver, that he might undertake a Voyage into the Holy Land.

*Constance*, or *Coutance*, Capital of this Countrey, is situated upon the small River *Buro*, 3 leagues East of the Sea, and almost 10 West of *Torigny*: Some take it for the *Augusta Ramanduorum* of the Ancient Geographers, *Amian Merceulin* calls it *Castra Constanlia*, tho he seems mistaken as to it's situation. The Ancient



cient Notices of the *Gauls* call it *Constantia Civitas*, *Gregory of Tours*, and other Ancient Authors of the French History *Constantina*, or *Constantiensis Urbs*. It's likely that *Constantinus Chlorus* encamp'd thereabouts, when he went over into *Great Britain*, and that from a Military Station it became a Town by degrees; or rather that the Emperor *Constantius* beautify'd it with Triumphant Arches, of which he erected a great number in the *Gauls*, and in *Pannonia*: For 'tis not probable that these Emperors should have built a Town, which some Years after was a City of Note, and an Episcopal See; so that it seems that they only repair'd or enlarg'd *Constance*, which thereupon lost its old Name of *Crociatonum Venetorum*, mentioned by *Ptolomy*. *St. Erembert* is taken by *Duchesne* for the first Bishop of *Constance*, in the fourth Century; but the first Prelate of it mention'd in Authentick Histories is one *Leonian*, who assisted to the first Council of *Orléans*, in 511. The situation of *Constance* is pleasant, among Meadows and Brooks, and not far from a Forrest. The Town is big, and well Peopled, but without Walls and Ditches, the French King *Lewis XI.* having demolished them because the Inhabitants had too openly sided with the Prince *Charles* his Brother. In 1562. the Lord of *Colombiers* besieged it, took it, and sent *Philip* of *Cosse* the Governor Prisoner to *St. Lo*. The Cathedral Church of our Lady is a fine Building, and beautified with Towers, upon one of which the whole Neighbouring Countrey may be discovered. This Town has a Balliwick and Presidial, Viscounty, Election, and Ecclesiastical Court.



Seven or eight leagues South-east of *Constance*, on the borders of *Auranches*, is the Burrough of *Ville-Dieu*, with a Commandership of the Knight of St. John's Order, instituted by *Richard III. Duke of Normandy*, and the first King of England of that Name.

Near to it is a Parish call'd *La Land Herould*, or *Airon*, which was formerly a good Burrough of half a league extent, as may be supposed by some Ruines. There was a Castle too, of which nothing is remaining, but the bare Name, in a Neighbouring Field call'd the Castles Meadow. *Duchefne* relates out of *Sigebert*, that in the year 1158. there hapned a Whirlwind, which raised up all that it met with, and rising in the Air, there appeared at last blew red Columns, against which were flung Arrows and Darts from several places, with a great number of Birds of several Kinds round about it: He adds farther, that this Prodigy was followed by a violent Plague, which depopulated whole Towns.

Four leagues North-west of *Ville-Dieu* is the Burrough of *Gouray*, with the Ruines of an Ancient Castle, upon a small Hill near the River *Sonille*.

Five leagues Southwest of *Gouray*, and seven of *Constance*, is the Sea-port of *Granville*: This Town is partly seated upon a Rock, and partly in a Plain, where it has its Haven. Nine or ten leagues Eastwards are the Burrough of *Mayen*, the Barony of *Fessy*, and the Castle of *La Motte l' Euesque*, belonging to the Bishop of *Constance*.

Seventeen miles East of *Constance*, lyes the strong



Strong Town of St. Lo, upon the River Vire, so Named from the fifth Bishop of Constance, *Lauto*, and in Latin *Briovera*, or Vire's Bridge. *Lauto* and his Successors have for a long time born the Title of Bishops of St. Lo, because this Town belonged to them, and that they kept there their ordinary Residence. It is now enjoyed by the Lords of Matignon, and has a Bailiwick, Election and Viscounty, an Abby of St. Bennets Order, and a Church under the Name of our Lady, founded, as 'tis said, by the Emperor *Charlemagne*, under the Title of the Holy Cross.

Seventeen miles North-west, you meet with the Barony of *Herpault*, divided into two Castles, the Lords of which entitle themselves High Constables Hereditary of the ancient Dukes of Normandy.

Five leagues North-west of St. Lo, upon the meeting of the Rivers *Orne* and *Sarthe*, lyes the Town of *Carenton*, or *Quentou* and *Carenton* or *Carentonium*, which is a well trading Place, because it lyes but three leagues from the Seaport, that the Tide brings up great Boats to it, besides the strength of its situation; it has a Castle, Walls, and Ditches fill'd up with Water. The Vulgar believe that *Caer*, one of *Caesars* Captains was the Founder of it. Whatover it may be, *Carenton* is pretty considerable, having great Suburbs, a Bailiwick, Election, and the Title of a Viscounty. In 1574, the Count of Montgomery took it for the Protestants, but the Lord of Matignon retook it some time after, and *De La Roche* Montgomery's Son was made Prisoner of War.



Five leagues Northwards lyes upon a small Hill the Burrough of *Monte-Bourg*, *Montis Burgi*, with an Abby of St. Bennets Order, built by our King Henry I. There is still kept every Saturday one of the greatest Markets in the Countrey.

Three miles South-west, near the source of the *Oise*, and a large Forrest, lyes the Town of *Vulogne*. *Walonia*, built by one *Walo*, which word in the Old Language of the French beyond the *Seine* signify'd a Good man, but is now surnamed *Le Hogue*; a word not quite so old, intended to express the litigious and quarrelsome Humour of its Inhabitants. This Town has a Castle, the title of Viscounty, an Election, a Bailiwick, and a seat of Justice for Waters and Forrests.

Five leagues North-east upon the Sea-coast, lyes the Burrough of *La Hague*, *Oga*, and four leagues North-west upon the same Coast the Town of *Barfleur*, *Barbaston*. These two places were renown'd formerly, because our Kings used to Land there when they went over into *France*. The first is yet in some Esteem for its Fishing, and the second for being seated in a Valley most fruitful in Corn, and therefore call'd in Latin *Vallis Cernis*. But both will be more known to Posterity, for the late Sea-fight between the *English* and *French*, (in 1692.) where the latter had 20 of their best Ships burnt or sunk without the loss of one man of War on our side.

Seven leagues West of *Barfleur*, is the strong Town of *Cherbourg*, in Latin call'd *Caro-burgus*, and by more Ancient Authors *Casaris Burgus*.

Some



Some pretend for that reason, that *Julius Caesar* was the Founder of it ; but in nine years which he bestow'd on the Conquest of the Gauls, he could hardly spare so much time as to employ it in building : so that such Towns as bear his Name, seem rather to be the Work of *August*, who took the Name of *Caesar* after his Adoption, or of the Roman Forces quartered in the Countrey. Besides the strength of its situation, in a sandy place overflow'd by the Sea twice a day, the French have fortified it lately. It is the last Town which remained in the hands of the English, under the French King *Charles VII.* to whom they were forced to yield it in 1453.

Four leagues West of *Cherbourg* lyes the Town of *Beaumont*, a league from the Coast. Six leagues Southward is the Sea-port Town of *Barneville* : Four leagues to the East upon the River *Bauptey*s over against *Barneville*, is the Castle and Burrough of *St. Sauveur le Viscount*, an Ancient Viscounty erected into a Bailiwick about the Year 1560. Seven leagues Southward is another Burrough called *St. Saxeur Landelin*, erected into a County by the French King *Charles VI.* and given for part of his Portion to *Lewis of Orleans*. It has a Bailiwick and Viscounty, upon which the Burrough of *Periers* is depending. Three leagues Westwards upon the Sea-coast lyes the strong Castle of *Piron*, renowned for a vast quantity of wild Swans and Geese.



## The Bishoprick of Avranches.

**T**His Countrey called by the Inhabitants *Auranchin*, or *Auranchinois*, has little *Brittain* and the *Mayne* on the South and South-east, the Bishopricks of *Bayeux* and *Coutance* on the North-east and North, and the Sea on the West: It reaches about 14 leagues East and West, and 8 North and South; some take its Inhabitants for the *Ambiliates* of *Caesar*, but 'tis more probable that they are the *Abrincatusi* of *Pliny* and *Ptolomy*. The chief Town *Auranches*, *Ingen* *Abrincatuorum*, is seated upon the Rivers *See* and *Selune*, *Seva* and *Senuna* upon a Hill, a good mile from the Bay of *St. Michael*. Its not a very big City, but strengthened with good Walls and Ditches: It was erected into a Bishoprick by *Clovis* the Great, and *Nepus* its first or second Prelate appeared in that Quality in the first Council of *Orleans* in 511. The Episcopal Palace is said to be one of the finest and strongest in *Normandy*. Besides the Cathedral under the Name of *St. Andrew*, there are several Parochial Churches and Monasteries, a Bailiwick, Viscounty and Election.

Seven miles West of *Auranches* lyes in the Sea a Rock formerly, the dwelling place of *Anachorets*. In 708. a Bishop of *Auranches*, called *Aubert* by *Duchefne*, and *Patern* by *De Valois*, consecrated



secrated a Church upon the top of it to St. Michael the Archangel, and placed there 12 Canons. The Dukes of Normandy having since endowed this Church with good Revenues, and Richard I. repair'd or beautify'd it in the middle of the tenth Century, People began to build there Houses, and it became in process of time a good Burrough, bearing likewise the Name of St. Michael. A wholsome Fountain, which cures several Diseases, and the Conveniency of making Salt by throwing Seawater upon a Sand that is to be found in this Mountain, did not a little contribute to the encrease of this place, which is rugged and inaccessible all round about, except on a side that is Wall'd. The Soil is a Gravelly Ground that is overflowed by the Tide, which makes the Latin Authors call it *Mons S. Michaelis in periculo Maris*. Over against it is another Rock called *Tombelaine*, which had likewise a strong Castle that has been demolished. Both Rocks are Nam'd in Latin *Tumbæ*, but because that of the Abby of St. Michael is the greatest of the two, the other got the Name of *Tumbella*, whence the French have made *Tombelaine*.

Three miles Southwards near the mouth of the *Couesnon*, lyes the Town of *Pontorson*, *Pons Ursionis*, that bears the Name of its Founder.

*Mortain*, *Moretonium*, is a small Town seven leagues South-east of *Auranches*, with the Title of a County, erected in 1041. There is a Bailiwick, Election and Viscounty, upon which the Casteln of *Tincbebray* is depending. *Mortain* was formerly a place almost impregnable by reason of its situation and Out-work. Two



on 3 leagues Eastwards lyes a famous Wood cal-  
 led *la Forêt des landes pourries*. About the same di-  
 stance towards the North you meet with a Hill  
 Named *Brambaltum*, *la Butte de Brimbalt*, whence  
 spring four Rivers that take each a different  
 course, viz. the *Séo*, *Seva*, the *Vire*, *Viria*, the  
*Egraine*, *Egrannia*, and the *Nereau*, *Nigra A-*  
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## CHAP. VIII.

## Of Brittany.

**L**ittle Britain is a kind of *Peninsula*, being included the Sea on the North, West and South, and having part of *Poitou*, *Anjou*, *Le Maine* and *Normandy* on the South-east. It is one of the biggest Provinces of *France*, comprehending the greatest part of the third *Lyonnoise*, and being extended above 70 leagues East and West, and above 45 North and South from the Sea near *Normandy* to the Borders of *Poitou*, but its none of the fertilest, having but little Corn, and that black too, little or no Wine, but a great many Meadows, a vast number of Marshes and Forrests, some Iron, Lead and Silver Mines, and the best Sea-ports in the whole Kingdom. They reap a great quantity of Hemp, of which they make Linnen; their Woods and Meadows give them the conveniency of breeding good Race-Horses, and a vast number of black Cattel and Sheep that furnish them with abundance of Butter and Milk, and their Sea-ports make them the best Fishers and Mariners in *France*. The Inhabitants appear Clowish, but are really shrewd and cunning.

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Tho' Pliny asserts, [l. 4. c. 17, 19.] That the Galli call'd in their own Language *Armerica*, the Countrey included between the *Garonne*, the Sea, and the Pyrenean Mountains, which the Romans nam'd afterwards *Aquitain*, yet it appears that *Cæsar*, and other Ancient Geographers understood by *Armorica* and *Armorici*, the Nations and Cities bordering upon the Ocean, from the mouth of the *Seyne*, to that of the *Loire*; so that the Ancient *Armorique* comprehended all *Brittany*, and a good part of *Normandy*, that is, all the third *Lyonnaise*, and about one half of the second, but this Name deriv'd from an old Gaulish word, *Armor*, *Ad mare*, or near the Sea, became in process of time proper to *Brittanny*.

*Beda* relates, [l. 1. c. 1.] That in old times some *Armoricans* came over into our Island, and master'd the Southern parts of it; however 'tis not from them that our Ancestors got the Name of *Brittains*, since these Gauls were only known by that of *Armorici*, whereas it cannot be doubted but that our *Brittains* gave their Name to *Brittanny*.

*Annal. Egin.* For *Eginhard* testifies, that about  
ad An. 786. the Year 441. at the beginning of *Valentinian's* Empire, the English and Saxons having invaded our Island, a great part of the Inhabitants put to Sea, and Landing on the Borders of *Vannes* and *Cornouaille*, made themselves Masters of the Countrey: Accordingly we find one *Mansuetus* Bishop of these *Brittains* subscribing to the Council of *Tours*, in 461.

Our Refugees made not long since a great Figure in the World, for about the end of the fifth Age they being *Ricimer* having made a League with



with the Emperor *Anthemius* against the *Goths*, was defeated by them on the borders of *Berry*, before he could joyn with his Confederates, and lost in that Battle the best part of 12000 men.

So great a loss however was not able to run them altogether down, for we find that even in the following Century they were a Terror to the French, so that *Clouis* the Great's Grand-Children, *Theodebert* and *Thierry*, were forc'd to keep Counts and Marqueses on the Frontiers, to oppose the Incursions of the Britains into the Territory of *Nauis*.

They being so Warlike, and their Castles and Forts being surrounded with Woods and Marshes, the Captains of *Charlemaign* were not like to have subdued them as they did about the end of the eighth Century, had they not divided themselves into several petty principalities; notwithstanding they recover'd their liberty under *Charles* the Bald, by the Valour of *Nomenius* and *Herispolus* his Son, to whom *Charles* yielded the Territories of *Renner*, *Nantes* and *Retz*, when he saw that he could not recover them.

Others relate the Settlement and Adventures of our Britains somewhat differently. They say, that about the Year 393. a British Captain, called *Gonar Meriadoc*, Lieutenant to *Maximus*, who had been saluted Emperor in *England*, in 382. obtained leave of his Master to erect a Kingdom in Little Britain, which his Successors enjoyed independently from any other till about the Year 570. that *Chlodowick* King of *France* made them Tributary. (After the Death  
of



of *Judicael* about the Year 700: This Kingdom was rent into several petty Principalities, so that *Charlemaign* had no great trouble to subdue them as he did in 787.

*Neomenes*, or *Nomenois* descended from the Ancient Kings of *Brittany*, was made Lieutenant to the Emperor *Lewis* the Meek, but he revolted against him, took the Title of King, and dyed in 852. *Heruspeus*, or *Herispinus* his Successor maintain'd the War against the French King, till 886. that he was kill'd by his Cousin *Solomon*. This last reigned 12 years, and was murdered in 878. After his Death this Province was rent again by several Lords, who made themselves Sovereigns in their respective Countries. This lasted to the Year 930, or 935. that *Alain* I. subdued the whole Province, and enjoyed it under the Title of County. He was succeeded by twelve or thirteen more, who possessed it under the same Title, but in all Sovereignty, till a French Prince, called *Peter* of *Dreux*, Grandson to the French King *Lewis* the Burly, having married *Alix* Heiress of this County in 1213. consented to acknowledge the French King *Lewis* IX. for his Liege Lord, who in recompense gave him the Title of a Duke: And for having thus betray'd the Liberties of the Brittain, he was surnamed by them the Duke *Mauclerc*, that is, The Ignorant or unskilful Duke. *Philip* the fair King of *France* made *John* III. Grand-child to *Peter Mauclerc* Duke and Peer of *France*. After the Death of *John* III. surnamed the Good, in 1341. there hapned a long and bloody War between two pretend-  
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 to this Duchy, *John* IV. surnamed of  
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Monfort, and Charles of Blois. John was Son to Arthur II. by a second Wife: Charles had Spoused Jane Countess of Ponthieure, Grand Daughter to the said Arthur. The French King Philip of Valois maintained Charles, and Edward III. King of England took the part of John. This Quarrel lasted about 14 or 15 Years, till John V. Son to the said John of Monfort, totally routed and killed his Competitor Charles at the Battel of Auray in 1364. This Great Duke, surnamed the Warlike, and the Conqueror, was succeeded by six others, the last of whom Francis II. left but one Daughter Ann, Dutchess and Heiress of Brittain, Married to the French King Charles VIII. and then to Lewis XII. She had a Daughter by the last called Claudia, Married to the French King Francis I. whose Son Henry II. was the first King of France that was Duke of Brittain by Succession, and United that Dutchy inseparably to his Crown.

The chief Rivers of *Bretagne*, besides the *Loire*, of which we have spoken in the General Description, are the *Vilaine*, *Vienonia*, which comes from a Place in the *Maine*, called *la Croisille*, washes *Vitrey*, receives the *Pinelle*, mixes with the *Lille* at *Rennes*; then encreased with the waters of *Seiche*, *Bonau*, and *Sevonne*, *St. Aubin*, *Oufte*, *Adon*, falls into the Sea near the Isle of *Mait*, six leagues South-west of *Vennes*, and four North of the mouth of the *Loire*. The *Blaves* comes from the Bishoprick of *Quimpercorentin*, runs thro' the Bishoprick of *Vennes*, washes *Pontivy* and *Hennebont*, and having received the *Elle* at his mouth, discharges it self into the Sea at the bay of *Blaves*. The *Laita* separ



separates the Bishopricks of *Vannes* and *Quimpercorentin*; and having received the *Isote*, at the Abby of *St. Croix*, runs into the Sea at the Abby of *St. Maurice*, three or four leagues West of the Bay of *Blavet*. The Rivers of *Oder* and *Benzudet* meet at *Quimpercorentin*, and run into the Ocean at a Village called *Benander*. The River *Aijen* or *Auen* washes the greatest part of this Bishoprick, and falls into the Bay of *Brest* on the South side, which on the North side receives the River *Bloen*. The River of *Morlaix* washes the Town of that Name, separates the Bishopricks of *St. Pol* and *Triguer*, and empties it self into the Bay of the *Toreau*. The *Tray* receives the *Eier*, and falls into the Sea between the Isles of *St. Mame* and *Brebat*. The *Argunon* separates the Bishoprick of *St. Brieux* from that of *St. Malo*, and runs into the Sea at Port of *St. Gars*. The River *Rance* comes from the borders of the Bishoprick of *St. Brieux*, washes *Dinant*, and empties it self into the Bay of *St. Malo*. The *Couesnon* washes *Nogent*, *Romazic*, *Antrain*, where it receives the *Aisance*, goes through *Pont Orson*, and falls into the Sea near Mount *St. Michael*.

*Britany* is divided into upper and lower, or Eastern and Western. Others divide it according to the Idioms that are spoken in its several Diocesses. The Bishoprick of *Rennes*, *Pol* and *St. Malo* speak French, those of *Quimpercorentin*, *St. Pol* and *Triguer* speak Brittainish, and those of *Nantes*, *Vannes*, and *St. Brieux* make use of both. These nine Bishopricks are all suffragans to the Archbishop of *Tours*. There are several Islands round about this Province, but for the most

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most part inconsiderable and uninhabited, except  
in the Isles of *Wessant* and *Belle-Ile*, of which  
I shall speak under the Bishopricks on which  
they depend.

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## Of High Brittany.

### The Bishoprick of Rennes.

**R**ENNES Capital of *Britanny* is situated up-  
on the meeting of the Rivers *Vilaine* and  
*Lille*, eighteen leagues South of the Sea and  
Mount *St. Michael*, and was already considera-  
ble in *Cæsar's* time, who calls its Inhabitants  
*Rhedones*, and *Ptolomy* the City it self *Condate*  
*Redonum*. It remained under the Romans till  
*Conan* made himself King of *Britany*, and esta-  
blished there the Seat of his Empire. About  
the end of the fifth Century part of our Brit-  
tish Ancestors went over the Sea, ransack'd  
and plunder'd this Town: However, it took  
its former lustre again, and was still the ordi-  
nary Residence of the Dukes of *Britanny*, who  
bore the Title of Counts of *Rennes*. The  
most Ancient Bishop of *Rennes* is one *Artemi-  
us*, who assisted at the first Council of *Tours*,  
in 461. and to that of *Rennes*, in 465. Before  
*Henry II.* instituted a Parliament at *Rennes* for  
the whole Duchy of *Brittany*, and made it  
Seden-



Sedentary at the same time, viz. In the Year 1553. there was a Seneschalship, to which resorted the Diocesses of Rennes, Dol, St. Malo, Cornouaille, Vennes, St. Brieux, Leon and Triguier. The Parliament of Rennes was transferred to Vennes in 1675. for some discontent the French King had taken against its Citizens, who unwillingly saw their priviledges invaded, and were loth to pay his Exorbitant Taxes, this Monarch little remembring how faithful this Town had been to his Ancestors during the Civil Wars: Nevertheless he was not in such a Passion, but that he restored them their Parliament in 1687. for a Summ of Money. Besides the Cathedral Church of St. Peter, Rennes has several Parochial Churches, and Monasteries, and the Abbies of St. Melaine, St. George, and St. Sulpice. The Palace of its Parliament is built on the modern way, and the Bell of its Clock is esteemed one of the biggest in the Kingdom.

The other Towns and considerable Burroughs of this Diocess, are Vitrey, Vitreium, near the source of the Vilaine, ten leagues South-east of Rennes, with the Title of a Barony. The French Protestants had there a considerable Church, St. Aubin du Cormier, perhaps Cornutus Vicus. Gregory of Tours testifies, that in 579. the Britains made an IncurSION into the Countrey of Rennes, and penetrated to this Cornutus Vicus. Lewis of La Trimonille K. Charles VIII. his General, defeated here the Duke of Brittany and his Confederates in 1488. July 28. It lyes upon the River Couesnon, four leagues North-west of Vitrey: Fougères, near the

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the source of the *Couesnon*, *Coetnūs*, is about twelve leagues North-east of *Rennes*. It has given its Name to a Noble Family, and one of this Lords call'd *Raoul de Fougères* fortified it, and built there a good Castle. It is so called from the quantity of *Fern*, *Fougere*, that grows thereabouts, and this Countrey is so remarkable for Health, in French *Landes*, that two other Burroughs take their Name from thence, viz. *S. Sauveur des Landes*, and *S. Gilles des Landes*. *Anseaim* lyes upon the same River five leagues Northwest of *Fougères*. The Latins call it *Interamnīs*, because its seated upon the meeting of the *Couesnon* and *Aisance*. There was formerly a famous Monastery, and the Emperor *Charles the Bald* had an Interview with *Solomon King* of the *Brittains* at this place in 863.



## Of the Bishoprick of Dol.

**T**His Diocess, the most Easterly of those that lye on the Sea-coast, is bound on the West and South by that of *St. Malo*, on the East by those of *Rennes* and *Auranches*, and on the North by the Ocean. It is hardly seven leagues North and South, and three or four East and West. *Dol* its Capital City is only considerable by its Bishoprick: It is situated in a Marshy Plain above ten leagues North of *Rennes*, four or five Northwest of *St. Malo*, and seven North-east of *Mont St. Michael*. The most ancient part of this Town is the Castle, near which was founded an Abby by a Bishop called *Samson*, in remembrance of a Serpent he had forc'd to fly thither. It was erected into a Bishoprick in 566. whereof this *Samson* was the first Prelate, according to *Duchesne*, or rather in 844. under *Neomenes* King of *Brittany*, according to the Jesuit *Sirmond*, and *De Valois*. The Dukes of *Brittany* laboured a long time to have this Church erected into an Archbishoprick, and one *Baldric* Abbot of *Bourgueil* in *Anjou* calls *John* Archbishop of *Dol*, and Metropolitan, but at last *Hugh* one of his Prelates yielded of its Pretensions in behalf of the Metropolitan of *Tours*. Near to this Foundation is an Abby of the Order of *Cisteraux* call'd *Vieuville*.

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## Of the Bishoprick of St. Malo.

**T**His Diocess reaches 20 leagues in length North and South, 8 or 12 leagues East and West, where it is broadest, and in some places hardly 2 or 3. It is included between the Sea and the Bishoprick of Dol on the North, those of St. Briex and Rennes on the West and South, and that of Rems on the East. The Capital *St. Malo* is one of the best Sea Port Towns in France, tho' its access be somewhat difficult, and defended by a strong Castle flank'd with great Towers, surrounded with Ditches, and kept by a good Garrison. This Town is one of the Keys of France, and considerable in time of Peace by its Trade into the Northern parts of Europe; but much more in time of War, for being a Nest of Sea Robbers. It is said that *St. Malo* is guarded by Dogs, because the Garrison, lest they should be surprized, lets out 12 Dogs that go round about the Walls, which do not fail to bark at the Goers by. This Town was built in an Island, a mile from the Ruines of another more Ancient, called *Alot*, the remains of whose Walls, Port and Castle are still to be seen. It got this Name of *St. Malo*, from one of its Prelates Named *Maclovius*, or *Machutes* in the tenth Century: It was also called the Isle of *Aron*. The Cathedral under



under the Name of *St. Vincent*, is said to be very Ancient: but one of its greatest Ornaments was *Jamès Cartier*, who in 1534. made a Voyage to *Canada*, and at his return published an exact Description of the Islands, Capes, Coasts, Sea-ports, Streights, Gulfs and Rivers which he discovered, and to which he gave Names that are yet in use. Three leagues North-east of *St. Malo* lyes the Burrough and Sea-port of *Cancalle*, renowned for the fishing of Oysters.

*Dinant, Dinannum*, is the most considerable Town of this Diocesis after *St. Malo*, from which it is six leagues distant towards the South. It's built upon the River *Rance*, and is the head of a small Countrey call'd *le Dinannois*: It was formerly the frequent Residence of the Dukes of *Brittany*, and the Portion of their Youngest Sons under the Title of a County.

Ten leagues Southwards upon the River *Men* lyes the Town of *Menisfort*, with an Abby of *St. Augustins* Order, and ten or twelve leagues South-west the Towns of *Plœrmel* and *Jacelin*, near the River *Ousse*. There are three other Abbies of *St. Augustins* Order in this Diocess, viz. *Plaimpont*, *St. Mehen*, and *Beaulieu*.

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## Of the Bishoprick of St. Brieux.

**T**His Diocess lyes in the middle of *Brittany*, between the Sea and the Diocess of *Triguier*, *Cornoaille*, *Vennes*, and *St. Malo*. It's about twenty or one and twenty leagues North and South, and seventeen or eighteen East and West along the Sea-coast, and has the figure of an irregular Triangle. The Capital *St. Brieux*, *St. Brioci oppidum*, is seated on the mouth of a Bay, between two small Rivers, in a pleasant and fruitful Valley. The Town is well built, and well Peopled, but there is a Rock before it which hinders the sight of the Sea to its Inhabitants, tho' the Ocean be but at half a leagues distance. Near this Rock is a Church dedicated to *St. Michael*, and a Castle, which commands the Town and the Port, that is convenient enough for great Boats. This Bishoprick was erected in 552. by *Pelagius*, or as others pretend more probably in 844. by King *Neomannes*: 'Tis said of this Town, that it was the only one in the Dutchy that remained in Peace during the Civil Wars between the Houses of *Montfort* and *Blois*. The Buildings of the Cathedral Church under the Name of *St. Stephen*, the Episcopal House, and the Palace of the Justice are in some Esteem.

The other Towns and considerable Burroughs

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of



of this Diocess, are *Beauport* on the Sea-coast six leagues Northwest of *St. Brieux*, with an Abby of the Order of *Prémontré*. *Pontrieux* six leagues South-west of *Beauport*, *Busquien*, an Abby of *St. Bennets* Order, eleven miles Southwest of *St. Brieux*. *Quentin*, nine miles South of the same, near a Forrest of ten leagues Circuit. *Lamballe*, six leagues North-east of *Quentin*, is thought to be the habitation of the *Ambiliates* of *Cæsar*. It belonged formerly to the House of *Clisson*, and is yet considerable for its abundance of Cattel, for the Trade of Parchments, and for its good Pioneers. *Fugon*, four leagues East of *Lamballe*, was formerly a considerable Town, where the Dukes of *Brittany* did some times reside, but it is now almost ruined. *Montcontour*, *Mons Contorius*, lyes between *Quentin* and *Lamballe*, five or six leagues South-east of *St. Brieux*, and has a Priorate dedicated to *St. Michael*. *Avangour* has the Title of a County, and was the Patrimony of an Illustrious Family, descended from the first Dukes of *Brittany*. *St. Jacut*, *St. Anbin*, and *Lantenac*, are three Abbies of *St. Bennet's* Order, along the Confines of the Bishoprick of *St. Malo*.



## Of the Bishoprick of Nants.

**T**HIS Diocess lyes on the South-east of *Brittany*, between *Poitou*, *Anjou*, and the Bishopricks of *Rennes* and *Vennes*. It is above 20 leagues North and South, and 24 or 28 East and West. The Capital *Nants*, call'd by *Pro- lomy Condivicnum*, and by other Ancient Geographers *Civitas Namnetum*, is seated upon the meeting of the Rivers *Ardre* and *Loire*, 17 leagues East of the Sea, which by the help of the Tide carries the greatest Boats, and small Vessels to four leagues distance of it, and makes it a great Trading Town. It has the Title of a County, call'd by the Ancient Records and Historians of the French *Media*, *Consulatus Namnetensis*, and *Comitatus Namneticus*, which was the ordinary Portion of the Eldest Sons of the Dukes of *Brittany* during their Fathers Lives; and tho' the City of *Rennes* has been so far preferred to it, as to be the Seat of the Parliament, however the Bishop of *Nants* enjoys still the Priviledge of Councillor born in that Court, and the Town it self has a Presidial, Generality, and Chamber of Accompts, and an University. This County has been some times in the Possession of the Counts of *Anjou*, as it was in 1080. when it was enjoy'd by one *Foulques*, and still







the same Count took *Nants* again from the French, who had seized upon it. In 1598. the French King *Henry IV.* residing at *Nants* to take the Oath of Allegiance from the whole Province, which had revolted from him to the League, made that Famous Edict of *Nants*, in behalf of his Protestant Subjects. This Edict was Registred in the Parliament-Court of *Paris* as an Unrepealable Law the 25th. of February, 1599. It was since confirmed by *Lewis XIII.* and *Lewis XIV.* himself, who nevertheless, to shew that he is far above the Laws, and even above his own Promises and Oaths, has made bold to Repeal it in the Month of *October*, 1685.

*Indre*, or *l'Isle d' Aindre*, *Antrum* : It was famous for a Monastery founded by one *Hermenland* of *Nimeghen*, who from Cup-bearer to *K. Thierry*, became Monk of the Abby of *Fontanelles*, in the Diocess of *Rouen*, and then Abbot in this Convent, which was ruined by the Normans in 843.

*Ancenis* is esteemed to be the *Ancenisium*, or *Angenisium* of the Latins, Capital of the *Amnites*, a People that liv'd about the mouth of the *Loire*. There was formerly a strong Castle built by *Aremberg*, Wife to *Gueree*, a British Count: but 'tis now ruin'd as well as the greatest part of the Town, which lyes 7 leagues East of *Nants* upon the same River, near another place 3 miles South-west, call'd *Oudon*, which makes *De Valois* take 'em for the *Uldo* and *Andenisium* of *Rigord*.

*Chasseau-briant*, *Castrum Brientii* or *Briani*, 13 Miles North of *Nants*, has taken its Name from its Founder. In 1551. the French King



Henry II. renewed there all the Ancient Edicts against the Hereticks, and gave even power to the Judges of Presidials to determine Causes of Heresie without Appeal, ordering farther, that none should be admitted into any Royal Office, or the publick Profession of any Science without a right Certificate that he was a Roman Catholick: and withall that certain Assemblies call'd *Mercurials* should be kept every Wednesday, in all the Sovereign Courts of Justice, to examine the Sentiments and Conduct of the Judges about Matters of Religion.

*Clisson*, *Clichio* upon the River *Sevre Sepris*, six leagues South-east of *Nants*, is a Town and a Castle which gives its Name to a small Tract of Land, call'd *le Clissonnois*, but is much more famous for having been the Title of Oliver of *Clisson*, High Constable of France, under the French King *Charles VI.* it is the same who routed the Flemmings, in 1382. and kill'd 40000 of their Men upon the spot.

Between this Town and *Montesgu* on the borders of *Poitou*, is the Forrest of *Gralla*, where that famous High-way Robber *Guillery* had built a strong-hold, wherein with his two Brothers and Companions, they stood out a Siege against 17 Provosts, and 5000 Men, but were taken at last and broken upon the Wheel, in 1608.

*Machecou*, Capital of the small Dutchy and Peerdom of *Rais*, *Ratiensis*, or *Ratiersis Pagus*, erected by the French King *Henry III.* in 1581. This Town lyes near a Forrest 11 leagues South-west of *Nants*. The Bishops of *Poitiers* have sometimes subscribed *Episcopi Ratienses*, or *de Civitate Ratiatica*, as did *Adelphius* in the Syhod



Synod of Orleans, because they kept in this Countrey their ordinary Residence: It was there also that the Emperor Charles the Bald invested Herispoins Neomenes's Son with the Kingdom of Brittany, adding the Counties of Nants, Rennes, and Raiz to his Dominions, in 851.

Guerande is situated near the mouth of the Loire, between Lakes and large sandy grounds, 18 leagues West of Nants: there are some good Salt-pits. Two leagues North-east is the small Town of Asserac, with the Title of a Marquisate. The Abby's are Meleray of Cisteaux, Blanche-Couronne of St. Renner, Pornie, and Goneston of St. Augustin, all of Fryars.

CHAP.



## CHAP. IX.

*Of Lower Brittany.*

## The Bishoprick of Vennes.

**I**T's undoubted but this Diocess is the Countrey of the Ancient *Veneti*, whose Capital was so powerful in *Cæsar's* time, and whose Inhabitants were the most skilful of the Gauls in Sea Affairs, so that some have pretended that the Venetians were descended from this *Veneti*, as the Ancient Geographer *Strabo* relates. What were the bounds of their Dominions is uncertain; but now this Diocess is included between the Sea, the Bishoprick of *Nants*, *St. Malo*, *St. Brioux*, and *Cornoaille*, and reaches 25 leagues East and West, and about 13 or 14 North and South. This Countrey was Conquer'd from the Romans by our fled Britains, but *Clovis* the Great took it from them, and the French kept it 90 Years, till *W'aroc* a British King reconquer'd it. His Successors maintain'd themselves against their mighty Neighbours to the time of *Pepin* and *Charlemaign*. In remembrance of this Conqueror, this Diocess



was call'd *Broguerec*, that is, the Land of *Guerrec*, or *Waroc*.

The Capital *Vennes*, call'd *Venetia* by *Caesar*, and in some Notices of the *Gauls Civitas Cintium*, or *Cinesium*, is thought to be the *Dariorigum* of *Ptolomy* by *De Valois*, it is situated two leagues from the Sea, which Ebbs and Flows there along the Channel of *Morbihan*, and has a Haven of the same Name. This Town has kept its Ancient lustre long enough, for the Duke *Fohn* of *Montfort* built there a Castle named *Ermine*, where his Successors have often kept their Court. *Vennes* is by no means so considerable as formerly, however, it has yet some Parochial Churches besides the Cathedral, under the Name of our Lady, and the Apostles *St. Peter* and *St. Paul*. *St. Patern*, whom the Vulgar calls *St. Poix*, is thought to have been its first Bishop.

*Auray*, four leagues West of *Vennes*, is seated upon the same Channel of *Morbihan*, and famous for the Victory which *Fohn V.* got over his Competitor *Charles* of *Blois*, the 29th. of September 1364. This Battel left the former in possession of the whole Dutchy, which was confirmed to him by the Treaty of *Guerande*, on the 12th. of April 1365.

*Blavet*, now better known under the Name of *Port-Louis*, is one of the best and strongest Sea ports of France, situated on the mouth of the River *Blavet*, so call'd for the blew Colour of its Water. The Leaguers gave it to the Spaniards, who restored it to the French King *Henry IV.* by the Peace of *Vervins*, in 1598. The Lord *Soubize* took this Town for the...



the Protestants, in 1625, but was forced to leave it, because he could not master the Citadel. Some time after the French Princes Confederated against *Lewis XIII.* seized upon this Town and Castle, and when the Peace was made, the French King caused the Fortifications of *Blavet* to be demolished: but after second Thoughts he raised them up again, and made them stronger than before.

Hennebont, *Cofedia*, according to *Adrian de Valois*, p. 291. is a finall Town 7 leagues North of the Sea upon the River *Blavet*, with a famous Abby of Nuns, of the Order of *Cifteaux*. *Pontivy* lyes upon the same River, betwixt two Forrests, 11 leagues North-east of *Hennebont*.

Rohan, upon the River Ouse, 3 leagues South-east of Pontivy has the Title of a Duchy and Peerdom, erected by the French King Henry IV. in 1603. and since renew'd by Lewis XIV. In 1645. but much more famous for having given its Name to a Family issued from the Ancient Princes of Brittany. Several Dukes of Rohan are Renowned in History, but the most Illustrious of all is Henry II. Duke of Rohan, who dyed in 1638. of the Wounds he had received at the Battel of Rhinsfeld, or rather of the Poysonous Apparel that a Physician (corrupted by the Jesuits) appllied upon them: For this great Warrior had been a long while one of the French Protestants Generals, and had maintained them a long time against their Persecutors: He has left us Memoirs so extraordinary well written, that they will make one doubt, whether he could better sway the Sword, or manage the Pen.

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*Guimené*, near the source of the *Elle*, 15 miles West of *Roban*, has the Title of a Principality. *Malestroit* lyes upon the River *Ousle*, 17 miles South-west of *Roban*.

The Island of *Belle-Ile*, *Caloneur* is depending upon this Diocess, and lyes about 5 leagues from the Coast, and 13 or 14 South-west of *Vennes*. It is about five or six leagues long East and West, and three or four leagues broad North and South: It has a Port called *Sauzon*, and two or three Castles, whereof that which lyes near the Port is somewhat strong. This Island is considerable for its Salt-pits, and for the Vessels that pass often near its Coast. If we were Masters of this Island, 10 or 12 light Frigats, and as many at our Islands of *Fersey* or *Guernsey* could keep in awe all the French Privateers from *Dunkirk* to *Bayonne*, and then we might really boast our Empire of the Sea.

Of



## Of the Bishoprick of Quimper- Corentin.

**T**HIS Countrey, anciently Inhabited by the *Curiosolites*, or corruptively *Coresepites*, reaches 36 leagues East and West, about 16 or 18 North and South, where it is broadest, and but 5 or 6 where it is narrowest. The Capital City *Ben*, situated where the River *Benaudet* falls into the *Odder*, after its gone round about its Walls, is called *Quimper-Corentin*, or *Cornouaille*. The last Name seems to come from our fled Britains, and to have comprehended the Diocess of *Treguier*. As to the first, it is composed from the Ancient Name of the Town *Quimper*, or *Kemper*, and that of *Corentin* its first Bishop, established by *St. Martin of Tours*, in the fourth Century. *Adrian De Valois* (*Not. Gall.* p. 291.) supposes it to be the *Alanna* of *Aethicus*, and p. 166, 167 the *Vagorgitum* of *Ptolemy*, Capital of the *Arvii*, by reason that he makes them Neighbours to the *Aulerci Diablintes*, and the *Namnetes*, and that neither he nor *Strabo* mention the *Curiosolita*. The Sea ebbs and flows into the Port of *Kemper*, and carries thither great Boats. The Cathedral Church is a fine and Ancient Building, with two great Towers. Near the Gate, call'd *Tourbic*, is a Tower extraordinary big, that formerly was the Towns



Towns Castle. *Cornouaille*, called in the Ancient Charters *Cornubia*, or *Cornugallia*, had formerly its particular Counts, and has now a Presidial. It lyes 4 leagues North of the Sea, and 28 West of *Vennes*.

*Concarneau* lyes in a Bay 5 leagues East of *Cornouaille*, and 11 West of *Blaver*: It has an extraordinary strong Castle.

*Quimperlay*, lyes 7 leagues East of *Concarneau*, and 2 North of the Sea, on the meeting of the Rivers *Laitta*, *Isoire*, and another small River. It was founded by *Alain Coiguard*, Count of *Cornouaille*. Betwixt this Town and the Sea, on the East-side, are two famous Abbies of St. Bennets Order, *St. Croix*, and *St. Morice*, separated by a Forrest.

Four leagues South-west of *Quimper-Corentin*, are the Towns of *Pol-David*, and *Douarnenes* near a Bay that bears their Name, and is about 4 or 5 leagues deep, and 2 or 3 broad.

Eight leagues North-west of *Quimper-Corentin*, lyes in a Bay the Seaport of *Audierne*, and 4 leagues farther the Isle of *Sain*, *Samnis* or *Sena*, remembered by *Mell*, because of an Oracle of the Gaulish Mercury that was in it.

*Chateau-lin* is a considerable Burrough upon the River *Aisen*, 7 leagues North of *Quimper-Corentin*, and 6 North-east of *Douarnenes*. The whole Countrey is mighty full of Woods, and well watered with Rivers. Besides the Abbies already mention'd, you have there *Langoner* of St. Bennets Order. *Coermaloen* of *Elsteaux*, or *Elsternian* Monks, *Bonrepas* of *Elsteaux* too, according to *Du Val*, or of *Premontre*, a sort of *Austin* Fryars, according to *Sampson*.

Of







Charles IX. in 1569. and an Ancient Lordship of the House of Estampes, issued by Alliance from the Dukes of Brittany. Lannion lyes upon the small River Loquet, 2 leagues from the Sea, and 5 South-west of Treguier. A mile North-west near the same River, are the Ruines of an Ancient City, call'd in Brittish *Cozqueouder*, which is esteem'd by some the *Civitas Osismi-* or *on* of the Latins, and suppos'd to be demolish'd by the Danes.

*Morlaix, Mons Relaxus*, situated upon a Hill between two Vallies, on a River of that Name, is a considerable Town, with two Suburbs, several Churches, a Town-house, and an Hospital, that is esteemed one of the finest Buildings in the Province: It has also a good Haven, into which the Tide brings up great Boats and Vessels of a hundred Tuns, great Merchant-men lye at Anchor at the Bull-Fort, or *Fort du Tau-reau*, which is built in an Island 3 leagues South-wards. This Town is renown'd for its Trade in Hemp, Line, and Linnen: On the top of the Hill are to be seen the Ruines of an Ancient Castle. Three miles South of Treguier, lyes a Burrough, call'd *La Roche-Derrien*, famous for that *Oliver of Clifson*, Father to the High Constable of that Name, was Captain of it.



## Of the Bishoprick of St. Pol De Leon.

**T**HIS Countrey was under the Jurisdiction of the *Osismii*, as I have already observed, tho' *Cæsar* gives to its Inhabitants the distinct Name of *Lemovices*, which in process of time degenerated into that of *Leonenses*. Its the most North-western part of *Brittany*, but at present not above 18 leagues long, and 8 broad. The Capital *St. Pol de Leon*, or *Leondoul*, is an Ancient Bishoprick, founded under the French King *Chilperick I.* in the sixth Century, and its first Prelate was one *Paul*, who has left his Name to the Town. The Inhabitants who speak the *Brittish* more naturally than their Neighbours, call *Leondoul Cozque Oudet*, or the Ancient Town, and tell us, that its Jurisdiction was at first very large; but that this their Capital having been ruined, its Dependencies were divided into the three Diocesses of *St. Pol de Leon*, *Tre-guier*, and *St. Brieux*. It is likewise one of the Ancientest Viscounty's of *Brittany*, which has been possessed by the House of *Rohan*, issued from the first Christian Counts of this Province, during 700 years, till they sold it to *John I.* Duke of *Brittany*, in 1254. This Town is pleasant enough, and some of the Dukes of *Brittany* have made it their Abode.

There are some inland Towns, as *Lanhouerneau*, *Lefneven*, *Carvillis*, *Lenvillis*, *Landerneau*,  
of



of which I find nothing in my Authors, neither of some small Islands on the West of this Diocess; save that *Landerneau* is seated upon the River *Eloene Herium*, six leagues North-east of *Brest*, in the fertilest Soil of *Brittany*; and that the Isle of *Ouessant*, or as we pronounce it *Ushant*, is call'd by the Latin Authors *Axantis*, *Uxantis*, *Osa*, or *Ossa*; that it is about 4 leagues in compass, defended by the Castle of *Lampool*, and by several Banks and Rocks.

And therefore I shall finish with the Description of *Brest*, call'd *Βεῤῥατον λιμήν*, *Brivates Portus* by *Ptolomy*. This famous Sea-port Town, lies 16 leagues South-west of *St. Pol de Leon*, 11 miles East of *Conquests-Bay*, and 12 leagues North of *Quimper-Corentin*. It's seated on the South-side of a Bay of 5 leagues in length, and 3 miles broad, whose depth is in most places from 10 to 15 Fathoms, and no where under 7. The entrance of the Bay is two leagues in length, and half a league broad where it is largest, and but half a mile where it is narrowest. The Town is situated on the steep of a Hill, on the side of the Port, whose Entry is defended by a strong Castle digged in a Rock. This Port is seated in a Gulf, whereinto flows the Sea by four different places, and is esteem'd the best in Europe, because the greatest Men of War may continually float therein. The Town is strongly fortified, inhabited by many Privateers, and is the Store-house of the French Admiralty for the Ocean. On the South-side of this Bay is the Sea-port of *Landevenec*, which seems to be the *Vindana Portus* of *Ptolomy*; it has an Abby of Benedictine Monks.

CHAP.



## CHAP. X.

## Of the Government Orleannois.

**T**HIS Government is the biggest as well as the fertilest part of *France*, for it reaches 110 leagues East and West from *Chateau Chinon* in *Nivernois*, to the Sea or the Isle of *Nermou-slier* in *Poitou*, and 70 North and South from the River *Aure* in *Normandy*, to *Monbrun* in *Angoumois*. It has part of the Isle of *France* and *Normandy* on the North, *Britany* and the Ocean on the West, *Saintonge*, *Perigord*, *Limousin*, and *Auvergne* on the South, *la Marche*, *Bourbonnois*, *Burgundy* and *Champaign* on the East.

In this Government are included 14 or 15 smaller Countries, situated North and South, and along the River *Loire*, which divides the whole into two parts very near equal. *Maine*, *Perche*, *High-Beauce*, or *Land Chartrain*, *Vendomois*, and part of *Gatinois*, lye on the North of that River going from West to East. *Nivernois*, *Orleanois*, or lower *Beauce*, *Blaisois*, *Touraine*, and *Anjou*, lye round about the *Loire* East and West; *Poitou*, the Land of *Aunis*, *Angoumois*, and *Berry* are the most Southern parts.

All these Countries are fruitful in Corn, Wine, Fruits, Cattle and Game. There are a great

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great many Woods, especially in upper and lower *Beauce*, the most considerable of which is the Forrest of *Orleans*, said to contain 70000 Akers of Land, and to have been of greater extent in *Francis I.* time, since it then took up 140000. The Forrest of *Senanches*, in the Countrey of *Chartres*, is 7 miles long, and 5 broad. That of *S. Cyr les Antrain* in the Election of *Clamecy*, is well near 10 miles in length, but of no considerable breadth: There is no Province in *France* which has so many paved ways.

As to its Rivers, besides the *Loire*, which is rather a River of *France*, since it waters 3 of its Governments, than of *Orleanois*, there are the *Loing Lupa*, which comes from the Mountains of *Auxerre*, near *Linsec* and the borders of *Burgundy*, goes by *S. Sauveur*, *S. Fergetu*, *Blesneau*, *Chastillon*, and at *Conflans* receives the *Ouane*, which rises at a Village of that Name, and waters *Thoussy*, and *Château-renard*. The *Loing* pursuing its course, goes thro' *Montargis*, and by *Cepoy*. Here is digg'd a Canal for the Communication of the *Seyne* and *Loire*, which intercepting part of the Water of the *Loing*, and that of several Rivulets, is divided into two branches, both Navigable by small Boats; the Eastern goes through *Montargis* and *Chastillon*, ends at *Briare* upon the *Loire*, and is call'd the Canal of *Briare*; the other passes by *Chevillon*, runs through the Forest of *Orleans*, discharges it self into the *Loire* near *St. Denis en Vallée*, 3 miles East of *Orleans*, and is call'd the Canal of *Orleans*.

Down *Montargis* and *Cepoy*, the *Loing* becomes  
still



still more and more Navigable, being encreas'd at Fontenay, with the *Clairy* that comes from St. Martin Dordon, and washes Courtenay and Ferrières: It receives another Rivulet near Chateau-Landon, goes by Nemours and Moret, and a mile Northwards discharges it self into the *Seine*. The *Escolle* and *Essonne*, which fall into this last River, are neither of them Navigable. The *Eure* issues from a Lake near the Forrest of Senouches, washes Bellomer, Pontgouin, Courville, Chartres, Nogent-le-Roy, Dreux, and mixes with the *Aure*, at Nonancourt.

The *Huisne* rises at some Mountains in the Countrey of *Perche*, washes Mauves, Condé, Nogent-le-Rotrou, la Ferté-Bernard, Connarcy, and mixes with the *Sarte* at le Mans. This comes from the borders of *Normandy*, waters Alençon, Fresnay, Beaumont-le-Vicomte, and having received the *Orne* near la Guierche, and the *Huisne* at le Mans, goes by la Suze, Malicorn, Sablé, Pince, Châteauneuf, and mixes with the *Loir* and the *Mayenne* at Angers. The *Loir* *Ledus Lidericus* takes its source from the Lake of Villebon, in the Province of *Perche*, waters Illiers and Alluie, receives the *Ousinne* near Bonneval, the *Conie*, which is a Marshy River near Marboe, and the *Terre* near St. Hilaire below Chateaudun, after it has hidden it self under the ground. Then pursuing its course, goes by Cloye, Moree, Freteval, Vendome, Montoire, Chateau du Loir, Durestail, and Angers. The *Mayenne*, *Meduana*, rises on the borders of *Normandy*, waters Domfront, Mayenne, Laval, Chateau-gontier, le Lion-d' Angers, Angers, and here uniting with the other two Rivers, fall together into the *Loire* near Pont-de-cé.

The

The *Clairy*,  
and *Chenay*. It  
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the *Seine*. The  
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gouin, Courville,  
Chartres, Nogent-  
le-Roy, Dreux,  
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gontier, le Lion-  
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*Loire* near  
Pont-de-cé.



The *Charente*, *Carantonus*, rises at a Village call'd *Cheronoc*, on the borders of *Limosin* and *Angoumois*, goes by *Chantrezat*, *Vieille-Chaire*, *Benais*, *Sivray* and *Rufec*; it is then encreas'd with the Rivers *Argent* and *Or*, the *Sonne*, and the *Tardouère*. This takes likewise its source in the borders of *Limosin*, washes *la Vauguion*, *les Salles*, *Pont Chabrot*, *Mont-beron*, *la Rochefoucaud*, and mixes with the *Charante* at *Mans-les* its *Genous*. The *Charante* thus swollen waters *Montignac*, *Balsac*, *Angoulemes*, *Chateau-neuf*, *Balsac*, *Vibrac*, *Farnac*, *Cognac*, receives in its way the *Bandiou*, the *Touvre*, *Toluera*, the *Noere*, *Norra*, the *Boueme* and the *Nay*, and at its entrance into *Saintonge*, the *Seugne* at *Pont-Chauveau*. Then it washes *Saintes*, *Taillebourg*, *St. Savinian du Port*, *Tonnay-Charante*, near which its encreas'd with the *Boutonne*, *Vultonna*, that washes *Secondigny*, *Chizay*, *l' Isle*, *Availle*, *St. Jean d'Angely*, *Tonay-Boutonne*, *la Vallée*, and falls into the *Charante* at a place call'd *Port*: This pursuing its course, goes by *Rochesort*, *Soubize*, and dis-embogues it self into the Ocean near *Port-Lupin*.

*Sevre*, *Savara*, or *Separa*, is the Name of two Rivers of *Poitou*; one is now call'd, *Sevre Nantaise*, and in the ancient Records *Marinel*, which has its source near a Village call'd *Sevre*, washes *S. Mexant* and *Niort*, goes 6 or 7 leagues through Marshes, where it is increas'd with several Rivulets, and then discharges it self into the Bay of *Pertuis Breton* near *Marans*, betwixt *Lacon* and *la Rochelle*. The *Lay* rises near *la Mallerat*, not far from the *Sevre Nantaise*, washes *Mareuil*, and falls into the Ocean at *St. Benoit*, betwixt



betwixt Talmond and Luffon. The Sevre Nar-toise Springs near Secondigni, goes by Maucon-tant, Mortaigne, Clifson, Chateau-Thibaut, and discharges its Waters into the Loire, a mile West of Nantes: The Rocks that are spread along its Channel, hinder it from being Navigable. The Vye an inconsiderable River, washes Aspremont and St. Gilles, where it enters into the Sea over against Isle de Dieu.

The Vienne, Viane or Vignane, Vincenna or Vingenna, issues from the Mountains of Auvergne, on the borders of Limosin, waters S. Leonard, Limoges, S. Junien, Brigueuil, Consoulens, Ava-ille-Limosine, Lisle-Fourdain, Lussac-le-Chateau, Chauvigny, Chastelleraud, Novastre, L'Isle-Bou-chard, Chinon and Candes, where it falls into the Loire, four leagues East of Saumur. The Ri-vers it receives are the Taurion near Limoges, the Clain, Clennum, near Chastelleraud, after it has been encreas'd with the Dive, the Vonne, and the Miossan, Medioximi, and has pass'd thro' Vivonne, Poitiers and Dissay. The Creuse, Crosa, which comes from the Mountains of Auvergne, goes by Aubusson, Ahun, Glenic, Celle, Crozans, in the Countrey of la Marche, Argenton, S. Mar-cel, S. Gautier, Ruffec-le-Chateau, Blanc en Berry, la Roche-pouzay, la Guierche, la Haye, and Port de Piles, near which it mixes with the Vienne, after it has been increas'd with the small Creuse, the Gartempe, Vartimpa, the Angolin and the Claire.

The Indre, Anger, Andria or Endria, waters the Countries of Berry and Touraine, and is not otherwise considerable, but that it divides it self into several Branches, and is interrupted with



with divers Marshes that create much difficulty to Travellers. It rises in Berry, and goes by *la Chastre*, *Chateau-Rou*, *Castrum Rodulfi*, *Bourg de Deols*, *Mebun sur Indre*, *Buzansais*, *Estrée*, *S. Genoul*, *Paluau*, *Charillon*, *Loches*, *Beaulieu*, near which its encreas'd with the *Indroise*, that goes by *Ville-Loin*, and *Montresor*; then waters *le Fau*, *Cormery*, *Mont-bason*, *Azay-le-rideau*, and discharges it self into the *Loire*, 3 leagues East of *Candes*.

The *Cher*, *Caris*, Springs in *Bourbonnois*, on the borders of *Auvergne*, washes *Auzance*, *la Marche-Combraille*, *Mont-Lusson*, *Ainai le Vieux*, *S. Amand* and *Monrond* in *Bourbonnois*, *Chateaux-neufs*, *le Coudray*, *Villeneuve*, *Vierzon*, *Menetou sur Cher*, *Selle*, *S. Aignan*, *Montrichart*, *Bleré*, *St. Avertin*, and renders it self into the *Loire*, 3 leagues East of the mouth of the *Indre*: It receives at *Vierzon* the *Eure* or *Teure*, that goes through *Bourges* and *Meun*, and is encreas'd with the *Loivier*, *Collin*, *Soulangis*, *Mouron* and *Auron*; besides the *Arnon* that waters *Renilly* and *Sury*, the *Naon* encreas'd with the *Fouzon* and *Fourion*; the *Sandre* that issues near *Sancerre* in *Berry*, waters *Notre-Dame de Boncard*, *Vailly*, *Concressant*, *Argent*, *Clement*, *Pierre-Fitte*, *la Ferte Imbaut*, *Remorentin*, *Charillon sur Sandre*, near which it mixes with the *Cher*, after it hath receiv'd the *Nerre* that goes by *Aubigny*, the small *Sandre* that waters *la Chappelle d' Angillon*, and *Menetreol*, and the *Raire* that washes *Nansay*.

The *Amasse* runs but 4 or 5 leagues, and is considerable only by that it goes through *Amboise*, a Town pretty famous, seated on the



the banks of the *Loire*, five leagues East of *Tours*.

The *Cisse* increas'd with the *Ramberree* and *Branne* fall into the *Loire*, on the North-side, 5 miles East of *Tours*. The *Beuvron* on the borders of the Election of *Gien*, near the Village of *Coulons*, washes *Cerdon*, the Isle of *Chaon*, *la Motte Beuvron*, *la Ferte Aurain*, *Villeneuve*, *Newy Brassieux*, receives the *Boneuvre*, the *Cenon* and the *Bièvre*, and mixes with the *Loire* between *Cande* and *Onzain*, 10 leagues North-east of *Tours*.

The *Cousson* has its source in the proper *Orleanois* at the Village of *Senely*, passes between *la Ferte Seneterre* and *St. Aubin*, makes the small Isles of *Ligny* and *St. Aignan*, goes through the pleasant Forrest of *Chambort*, and discharges it self into the *Loire*, almost two miles East of the mouth of the *Beuvron*. Going up the *Loire* towards the East, you meet with several Rivulets falling into that great River, as the *Dixme*, the *Doure*, the *Loiret*, which begins to be Navigable at *Olivet*, 3 miles from its mouth, tho' its whole Channel has hardly 3 leagues in length.

On the side of *Orleance*, and the North side of the *Loire*, you meet with the Rivulets of *Meun* and the *Aisses*: And after having passed the Canal of *Briare*, going Southward up, you'll find the *Bonny*, the *St. Amand*, the Rivulet of *Cosne*, the *Argent*, the *Mazau*, the *Niere*, &c.

of the *Loire*, and about 10 miles from its mouth, it receives the *Beuvron*, which is a small River, but very fertile, and is the source of the *Loire*.



## Of the Country of Maine, or Le Maine.

**M**AINE, or Le Maine, *Cenomania*, or *Cenomanicus Pagus*, hath *Normandy* on the North, *Perch*, *Vendomois*, and *Beauce* on the East, *Bretagne* on the West, and a part of *Touraine* with *Anjou* on the South. This Province is 20 leagues North and South from *Bourg-le Roy* near *Alençon* in *Normandy* to *Galerande* on the borders of *Anjou*, and about 34 East and West from *la Ferié Bernard* to the Frontiers of *Brittany*. It is ordinarily divided into Higher and Lower, abounds with Corn, Wine, Linseed, Cattle, and has some Mines of Iron. It is watered with three principal Rivers, viz. the *Huisne*, the *Sarte* and the *Mayenne*, which in their course receive the *Taigre*, the *Feayn*, the *Dive*, the *Veuve*, the *Graine*, and many other little streams. Its principal Forests are *Berjay*, *Perseigne*, *Longaunay*, *Sillé*, *Dandaines*, &c. The Inhabitants of *Maine* are very Witty and Courteous, and so shrewd in the management of their Affairs, that this has given occasion to a Proverb, *Qu' un Mansseau vaut un Norman & demi*, That an Inhabitant of *Maine* is worth one entire *Norman*, and the half of another; but others ascribe the Origine of that Proverb to the Money formerly used







Duke du Maine, and the Charge of Colonel General of the Switzers.

The City of **Mans** or **le Mans**, in Latin *Civitas Cenomanorum*, *Suindinum*, or *Subdinnum*, is situated upon the Confluence of the *Sarte*, and the *Huifne*, having the Title of a Bishoprick suffragan of *Tours*. It is said that this City was built by *Sarrhon*, Grandson of *Samothes*, K. of the Gauls, and being afterwards ruined by the *Druides* and the *Sarrhonides*, whilst they contested for it, it was rebuilt by *Lemant* King of the Gauls, who gave to it his Name. However it be, for this Account is look'd upon as fabulous, *le Mans* is a very Ancient City: And in *Charlemaign's* time was one of the most flourishing in the *Celtick* Gaul, but the incursions of the Normans, and the War with the English have much abated of its former Grandure. It is now built upon a Mountain, which is raised up high beyond the *Sarte*, between the North and the West, and has a Balliwick and a Presidial Seat, with a Cathedral Church under the Name of *St. Julian*, who is esteem'd the first Bishop of it. The French Kings by a Prerogative of their Crown, are Canons born in this Church. It's observed that the English, during the Siege they laid to this City, in 1425, were the first who made use of great Artillery in France.

*Mayenne-la-Fubel*, *Meduana*, has its Name from the River *Mayenne*, upon which it is seated, and from the Lord *Fubel*, who liv'd under the Reign of *Philip August*: It lyes not far from the Frontiers of *Normandy*, being distant from *le Mans* about 18 leagues towards the North-west. It's a Town very agreeable with the Title of a



Dutchy, under which *Charles of Guise* became so famous during the Wars of the League, whereof he was Head. In 1661. Cardinal *Mazarin* bought this Dutchy from the Heirs of that House, to give it in Portion to his Neice *Hortensia Mancini*, Marry'd with *Armand Charles de la Porte* Duke of *Mazarin*; it had before the Title of a Marquizate.

*Laval*, or *Laval-Guion*, *Vallis-Guidonis*, is upon the River *Mayenne* in lower *Maine*, about 6 or 7 leagues from *Mayenne* towards the South. It has the Title of a County, and belongeth to the House of *la Trimouille*: it is famous for the fine Cloth which is made there, as also for a Council which was held there, Anno 1242.

*La Ferté Bernard*, *Firmitas Bernardi*, a Barony, is situated upon the River *Huisne*, being distant from *le Mans* about 9 or 10 leagues towards the East, and the Frontiers of *Perche*; there is a seat of Justice, which resorts immediately to the Parliament of *Paris*. It gave Birth to *Robert Garnier*, who at the end of the last Age, before *Tristan, Miret*, and *P. Corneille* arose, was accounted the Prince of the Tragick Poets amongst the French. The Territory about this Town is call'd by the Latin Authors of the French Affairs *Ager Firmitatensis*.

*Sablé* a Marquizate, is situated near the *Sarte*, between the little Rivers of *Vergete* and *Erve*, about 10 or 11 leagues from *Mans* towards the South-west. *Beaumont le Vicomte* is a fine Town, with the Title of a Dutchy, it lyes upon the *Sarte*, 6 leagues North of *Mans*, and 3 South of *Alençon*. *Raoul*, who was Lord of it, assisted

Anno



Anno 1093. at the Translation of the Reliques of *St. Julian*, the first Bishop of *Mans*.

*Chateau du Loir*, a Barony, is situated upon the *River Loir* in the Frontiers of *Vendôme*, distant from *le Mans* about 8 or 9 leagues to wards the South-east.

There are other places of some Note, as *La-vardin*, *Villaine-la-Juhel*, *Gesvres*, *Vibray*, *Vassé*, *Ballon* and *Galerande* that are Marquizats, *Brulon*, *Suze*, and *Belin*, are Counties, *Bresseau* is a Vis-county, and *S. Suzanne* is a Barony.



## Of the Country of Perche, or Le Perche.

**L**E Perche liath *Normandy* on the North, *le Maine* to the West, *Vendomois* and *Blaisois* on the South, and towards the East it hath *Beauce*. This Country seems not to have been known to the Ancients, the reason of which I imagine to be, that the middle-part of it was all cover'd with Woods, and the borders belonged to the Neighbouring Nations: And therefore it was that an Anchorer, whom Posterity has since venerated under the Name of *St. Avy*, *S. Avitus*, retired into these Forrests, as into a wide and impenetrable Solitude. The Country was yet for the most part Woody, at the beginning of the third Race of the French Kings, about 700 years ago, and call'd for that reason *Perticus Saltus*, the Forrest of Pearches, perhaps because it consisted in great part of Fir-trees, or other long and even Wood. And you may observe by the reading of the Latin Authors of the French History, how they were fell'd down, and the Country peopled by degrees; which however is still Woody enough: Its therefore labour lost to look for its Ancient Inhabitants, since there were none, for the

Hnelli



*Unelli* and the *Auleri Diablintes* were an *Armorick Nation*, who seem'd to have dwell'd the first in the Western Coasts of *Normandy*, and the last on the Southern of *Brittany*.

*Le Perche* is divided into higher and lower; the higher part is the County, and the lower is call'd *Perche-Gouet*, or rather it's divided into *Grand Perche*, *Perche-Gouet*, (from the Name of its Ancient Lords) *Terre Française*, or French Country, and *Terres Démembrées*, or Dismember'd Lands.

1. *Grand-Perche* contains *Nogent-le-Rotrou*, *Mortagne*, *Bellesme*, *Perriere*, the Baronies of *Loupe*, *Illiers*, *Courville* and *Pontgoin*.

*Nogent le Rotrou*, *Novigentum Rotroci*, or *Rotroldi*, so call'd from *Rotrou* its Founder, Count of *Perche*, is seated upon the *Huisne*, where it receives the *Ronne*, and is the Capital of Upper *Perche*, tho' it be commonly accounted a Barrough, but one of the finest and richest in *France*, by reason of its Manufactures of *Serges*, *Linnen* and *Leather*, and of its excellent Knives, call'd also by the Name of the Country *Coutaux Pergois*. The Inhabitants having rebell'd against the English, the Count of *Salisbury* took it, and caus'd many of them to be hang'd; but the French King *Charles VII.* retook it in 1449. It lyes 30 leagues South-west of *Paris*, and almost 22 North-west of *Orleance*.

*Mortagne*, *Moritolium*, or *Moritonium*, near the source of the *Huisne*, 8 leagues North-west of *Nogent le Rotrou*, is a goodly Town, well peopled, and adorned with several Churches. It has a Castle, and had formerly the Title of a County. *Perriere* is now of little considera-



tion, having been ruin'd by the Wars. *Bellesme*, *Bellissimum*, or *Bellissimum*, (sup. *Castrum*) is seated on a Brook that encreases the *Huisne* at *la Ferte-Bernard*, and has near it a Mineral Fountain as much esteem'd as those of *Pougues* and *Forges*. The States of the Province use to be kept in this Town, which has the first Vote, and is distant 6 leagues from *Nogent le Rotrou* to the South-west.

The Barony of *Pontgouin* belongs to the Bishop of *Chartres*, and has several Lordships depending on it, *Conde sur Huisne*, *Condate ad Eguinam*, is of some Consideration, and lyes 2 leagues North of *Nogent le Rotrou*.

2. *Perche-Gouet* hath 5 Ancient Barronies, to wit, *Aulon*, *Monmirail*, *Alluye*, *Basoche*, and *Brou*.

3. *La Terre-Françoise* consists in the Bailiwick of *La Tour-Grise*, upon the River *Aure*, over against *Verneuil* in *Normandy*. 4. *Les Terres Demeembrées*, have the small Countrey of *Timerais*, the Town of *Château-neuf*, and the Principality and Town of *Senonches*.

This little Province is about 18 leagues in length, and almost as much in breadth: It's very fertile in Corn, and well furnisht with Meadows and Pasture-ground, which together with their Forrests, and the Manufactures formerly mention'd, make the Inhabitants subsist. *Remy Belleau*, a Lyrick Poet, famous in the last Age, was Originary of this Province.

*Perche* hath a dependance upon the Generali-ty's of *Orleans* and *Alençon* as to the Court of Exchequer, on the Parliament of *Paris* for secular Justice, and for the Spiritual, it resorts to the



the Bishops of Chartres and Seez. It had its particular Counts, the most Ancient of whom is named *Agombert*, or *Albert*, in the time of *Louis le Debonnaire*, in the IX. Century: But they were call'd Counts of *Bellefme*, *Alençon* or *Mortagne*, and the first who took the Title of Count du *Perche* was *Retro II.* in 1149, that Country having been before of too little Consideration, to give Title to a great Lord.

N. 5

of



## Of Beauce.

**D**u Val, and several other Geographers comprehend under the Name of *Beauce*, *Belsa*, or *Belsia*, several small Countries, as the Territory of *Chartres*, *le pais Chartrain*, that part of *Gastinois* which is annexed to the Government *Orleanois*, besides *Vendosmois*, *Dunois*, *Puisaye*, proper *Orleanois*, *Sologne*, and the Southern part of *Blaisois*, which make up an extent of 35 leagues North and South, from *Dreux* to *Remorentin*, and above 50 leagues East and West, from the borders of *Champaign* and *Burgundy*, to the Frontiers of *Maine*, being included with *Berri* and *Nivernois* on the South, *Perche* on the North, *Maine* and *Touraine* on the West, and *Champaign* and *Burgundy* on the East. These Countries taken together, consist in large and fruitful Plains, so very abundant in Corn, that they are call'd the Granary of France.

The Learned *Adrian de Valois*, following Ancient Authors, gives to this Province an extent of 15 leagues, and divides it into three parts, *Belsa Carnutensis* *le pais Chartrain*, *Belsa Dunensis*, or *Dunois*, *Belsa Pitiverensis*, the Election of *Pithiviers*. To avoid confusion, I shall speak first of the County of *Chartres*, or *Pays Chartrain*, which is call'd by some

Proper



## Proper Beauce.

**T**His Country is situated between the Isle of France, Perche, Blaisois and Orleanois. The City of **Chartres**, call'd in Latin *Autricum Carnutum*, from the River *Autura*, Eure on which it lyes, has a Presidial Seat and Bishoprick, formerly suffragan of *Sens*, and now of *Paris*, since the Year 1622. This City is so Ancient, that some Authors believed that the Issue of *Gomer* having pass'd into the Gauls, some time after *Noah*, did lay the Foundation of it. Others maintain, that the *Druides* and *Sarrhonides*, the Ancient Priests of the Gauls, did build it, and foretold, that a Virgin should one day grow big with Child without the Company of a Man. It was this which obliged *Priscus*, Governour for the Romans, to erect a Temple to that Blessed Virgin, with this Inscription, *Virgini Pariturae*, or *to the Virgin who is to bring forth*. Thus it was that they ador'd at *Athens* an unknown God. But whatever be of it, the People of this Countrey made a long and bold Resistance to the Romans, kill'd one *Tasgetus*, tho' he was of the Royal Blood of their own King's, because *Cesar* had set him over them, and after that great Conqueror had subdued them, he was glad that they would accept of the



the Alliance of the Romans, and keep their Peace.

The Bishops of this City are thought to be of very Ancient Institution, for *Solemnis*, who informed *K. Clovis* in the Christian Religion is reckon'd its 14 Prelate by *Duchefne*. At least 'tis probable, that under the French Kings of the first and second Race they were Lords Temporal as well as Spiritual of it, if what the same Author relates be true, that one *Elius* the 40th. Bishop gave the Revenues of the Abby of *S. Pere en Vallée* to the Nobility of *Chartres*, and that *Hardwin* the 50th. Prelate was the first who Dismember'd the County from the Bishoprick, to enrich a Nephew of his call'd *Odo*, or *Eudes*. I know not whether his Posterity forfeited their Estates; but *Hugh* the Great, Father to *Hugh Capet*, the first French King of the 3d. Race, being then very powerful in that Kingdom, gave this Country together with those of *Blois* and *Tours* to a Kintman of his call'd *Theobald* the Old, or the *Tricker*. His issue in process of time, viz. in 1037, acquired the County of *Champaign*, and had been the greatest Lords in *France*, had they not weak'n'd themselves by the Portions they gave to Youngest Sons. In 1286. *Lewis IX.* bought the County of *Chartres* from *Fane* of *Chatillon*, the Heiress of it. It has been since united to the French Crown, and separated from it several times, and now it makes part of the Portion of Monsieur, *Lewis XIV.*'s Brother; his Eldest Son bearing the Title of Duke of *Chartres*.

This City and Country have undergone several Revolutions, for at the end of the sixth Age,  
*Thierry*



*Thierry K. of Burgundy*, took it by Storm from his Brother *Clotaire*. In 743. *Hunold Duke of Aquitain* took *Chartres* and burn'd it. *Francis I.* erected it into a Dutchy, in Favour of *Madam Renée of France*, Dutchess of *Ferrara*. Anno 911. *Rollon* chief of the Normans besieged it, and Anno 1019. it was almost quite burnt down, Anno 1568. the Protestants laid Seige to it under the Reign of *Charles IX.* and would certainly have taken it, the Admiral of *Chaillon* having defeated *La Valette*, who came to relieve it, and the Duke of *Angou* not daring to venture a Battle against that great Captain: But the Protestant Nobility lured with the fair promises of Liberty of Conscience, by that entreaguening Princess *Katherine of Medicis*, rais'd voluntarily the Siege, whereupon ensued the short Edict of Pacification at *Longjumeau*. Ever since *Chartres* followed the party of the League, till Anno 1591. *Henry the Great* took it, and was there Crown'd and Anointed King of France, the City of *Rheims* still persisting in its Rebellion. If you ask, whether they took Consecrated Oyl to perform that Ceremony, *Du Verdier* will answer you, that there is another holy Ampull, or Vial kept at *Marmoutier*, an Abby near *Tours*. for that purpose, and that the Oyl of that Vial is no less Sacred than that of *Rheims*.

The River *Eure* divides *Chartres* into two unequal parts, which lye partly on a Valley of difficult Access, and partly at the end of a large Plain, the Streets are generally narrow, as it uses to be in Ancient Towns; the Houses however are fine, the Walks pleasant, and the Church



Churches Magnificent. The Cathedral dedicated to the Holy Virgin is very considerable, its Quire, the Church under ground, and its 2 Steeples, are the Admiration of all Strangers. The Chapter hath 72 Canons, 17 whereof are Dignitaries, among whom are 6 Archdeacons, viz. of Chartres, Blois, Dunois, Vendome, Dreux, and Pincerais, 4 Provosts, namely, those of Ingre, Normandy, Mesange and Ane. In this Diocess are reckon'd 30 Abbies, 257 Priories, and more than 1300 Parishes, the Churches of St. Julien and St. Agnan are very fine.

In a word, 'tis one of the biggest and richest Diocesses of *France*, comprehending four other Cities, the heads of so many Countries, each of which might conveniently enough be made the Seat of a Bishop, viz. *Blois, Chateaudun, Vendome and Dreux*, If we believe *De Valois*. In the City it self are 3 Abbies, viz. those of *St. Josaphat, St. Pere en Vallée, and St. Cheron*, besides many other Religious Houses. Several considerable Manufactures are made at *Chartres*, by reason of the waters of the River *Eure*, which are esteemed very proper for that purpose. This City lyes 14 leagues North-west of *Orleans*, and 16 South-west of *Paris*.

Nogent le Roi is situated upon the Eure, 5 miles South of Dreux, and 9 North of Chartres. It's call'd Novigentum Regis, because, as some say, King Philip VI. dyed here, or as others pretend, because it was given by one Isafelle to K. Philip August.

Dreux, *Durocassa Carnutum*, and corruptively *Droca*, and *Drochim*, lyes also upon the Eure, 13 miles North of Chartres, on whole Bishop



it depends, as likewise on the Governour of Orleans, tho' as to the Exchequer, its Election resorts to the Generality of Paris. It has the Title of a County, and the precedency of Charters in the Assembly of the General States, it being one of the Ancientest Cities in the Kingdom. Nay, if we believe the suppositious Barose, it was built Anno 410. or thereabouts, after the Deluge, by Drins IV. King of the Gauls, and Founder of the Druides. So much at least is sure, that these Druides, who were together the Priests, the Teachers, the Judges and the Physicians of that Nation, kept here their Assemblies, as esteeming this Place blessed and holy, and the middle or Center of Gaul. Here also it was that they gather'd the Mistletoe from the Oaks, with many Ceremonies, after the solemn Sacrifice of two young white Bulls, on the sixth day of the Moon, the Priests cutting the Shrub with a Gold Sickle, and the People receiving it on white Cloath: For those crafty fellows made the Vulgar believe that the Mistletoe was an heavenly Gift, a Sovereign Remedy and preservative against all Diseases.

Robert Son of Lewis the Burly, had the County of Dreux given him Anno 1037. when he married the Widdow of Rotrou Count of Perche. He is the Stock of the Counts of that Name, and the Dukes of Britany descended from him. His Grandson Peter of Dreux having married Guy Alix, Heiress of that Sovereignty in 1250. About the end of the twelfth Century, our King Henry II. and his Son Richard burn'd this Town and Vendome, because Count Robert of Meulan, their

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Kinsman and Vassal, had made Homage of his Lands to the French K. *Philip August*. This Town is likewise famous for the Battle which the Roman Catholicks gained over the Protestants *Anno 1562.* in which the Generals of both Parties, the Duke of *Monmorency*, Lord high Constable of *France*, and the Admiral of *Coligny* were made Prisoners. *Gaillardon, Galardo*, is scituated upon a little River, which emptieth it self into that of *Eure*, 3 leagues and a half from *Chartres* to the North-East: It's remarkable for the Birth of *St. Hildeburg*, whose Life has been not many years since published by *Don Luke d' Achery*.

*Esperson Sparno* lyes 5 leagues North-East of *Chartres* and 5 Miles East of *Nogent le Roy*. It has a Priory under the Name of *St. Thomas*, but is much more famous for having been erected into a Dutchy and Peerdom in 1582. by the French King *Henry III.* on behalf of *John Lewis* of *la Valette Nogaret*, whom he rais'd to the highest Dignities in that Kingdom, and made him his chief Favourite.

*Bonneval* is scituated on the Frontiers of *Blaisois*, in a fruitful Soil, where the *Loir* receives the *Mesuve*, 6 Leagues and a half South of *Chartres*: There is a famous Abby of *Benedictines*, of which one *Arnauld* an intimate Friend of *St. Bernard* was Abbot in the 13th. Century.

*Maintenon, Mesteno*, 7 Miles North-East of *Chartres*, and 3 South-East of *Nogent le Roy*, upon the River *Eure*, is now famous for giving the Title of Dutches to the Widdow of the Reet *Scarlton d'Ansoise d'Aubigné*, the principal She-minister of State, and Cabinet Counsellor of *Louis XIV.* There.



There are some other Towns or considerable Burroughs in this County, as *Auneau*, *Ouerville*, *Voves*, *Viaton*, &c. In 1682. the Duke of Guise defeated the Germans near *Auneau*.

## Of Vendomois.

**V**endomois, *Vindocinensis*, or *Vindusnensis Pagus*, hath *Perche* on the North, *Maine* on the West, *Touraine* on the South, and *Blaisois* on the East. Here is especially remarkable *Vendome*, *Vindocinum Castrum*, situated upon the *Loir*, and the Capital of *Vendomois*, with the Title of Dutchy and Peerdom, erected by *Francis I.* in 1514. on behalf of *Charles of Bourbon*, Father of *Antony of Bourbon*, and this of *Henry IV.* During the first Race of the French Kings, this Country made part of the Kingdom of *Orleanse*, and was since possess'd by the Counts of *Anjou*. In 1342. *Godfrey Martel*, one of them built here the Abby of the Holy Trinity, after he had overcome *William Count of Poitiers*, and Conquer'd from him the City of *Saintes*: He fill'd it with *Benedictine Monks*, and presented it with a pretended Tear of our Saviour, said to have been wept on the Grave of *Lazarus*. The Popes, who never fail'd of gratifying the Monks at the Expences of the Secular Clergy, freed these from all Episcopal Jurisdiction, and *Innocent III.* granted them this vain Priviledge, that their Abbot might take upon him the Title of Cardinal of *St. Priscus*.

In



In 1563. the Protestants being Masters of this Town, broke down the Images, and it having since followed the League the French King *Henry IV.* took it by Storm in 1569. and caus'd *Maillé Benenard*, the Governour, and a Franciscan Fryer to be Executed, forgiving the rest of the People.

In this Town there is a very ancient Castle, a Colledge of the Fathers of the Oratory, and some Religious Houser. It is distant from *Paris* about thirty two Leagues to the South-West. *Peter Ronfard*, a Poet famous in the last Age, was Originary of *Vendomois*, in which I find no other considerable Places but *Montoire* and *Ville aux Cleres*.

of



## Of Anjou.

**A**njou, *Ducatus Andogavensis* hath Maine on the North, Brittany on the West, Poitou on the South, and Touraine on the East. This Province is about 30 Leagues in length, & 10 in breadth. It aboundeth with great Quarries of Slate, wherewith most of their Houses are covered, and even oft employed by Masons instead of Stones. There are reckoned about 36 or 40 Rivers, whereof the principal are the Loire, the Sarre, the Loir, the Mayenne, the Dive, the Vienne, the Couesnon, the Oudon, the Authion, the Tonay, the Layon, the Eure, the Guinart; and such a number of Lakes, Ponds, Brooks and Fountains, that several believe the Name of Anjou to be derived from that of Aiguade. Du Chesne rejects this Conjecture as impertinent; but when I consider that most of the Names of Countries have a reference to their situation, that the Gascons, who in their vulgar Language have preserv'd many ancient Gaulish Words, call a River Gave; that the Romans named the Inhabitants of Anjou, *Andicavi* or *Andegavi*; and that the Celtick Speech had a great affinity with the Teutonish, I am apt to look on the Name *Andegavi* as a word compounded of three, *An-de-gaven*,



*gaven, In the Brooks, to denote Men inhabiting a Country wash'd with many Rivers. However it be, this abundance of Water makes the Riches of Anjou, both by a vast quantity of sweet Fish, and the great number of Gardens and Meadows they make therewith fruitful. This Province is partly Champlain, and has many Woods and Forrests, where abound Stags, Hinds, Bucks, Does, Hares, and all sorts of great and small Game; and partly mountainous and cover'd with Vineyards, that produce as delicate Wine as any in France, most of which together with their Brandies and those of Orleans are transported along the Loire to Nantes, and thence into Foreign Country; for Brittany has none, or but very little of its own.*

*This Country is divided into higher and lower, following the Course of the River Loire. Angers is in the lower, and Saumur in the higher. The other most considerable Towns are la Fleche, Montreuil-Belley, Chateau-Gontier, Beaumont en valée, the Duchies of Brissac, Beaupreau, Brezé, Vaujour & le Lude; the Marquisates of Farçay, Bellay, Tournacé; the Counties of Montsoreau, Maulverrier; the Barrony of Craon, &c. the Abbies of Fontevrault and Borgueil; the Castle and Convent of Verger, &c. The ancient Inhabitants of Anjou, call'd in French Angevins, and in Latin Andes, Andi, Andecovi or Andegavi, had their own Commanders; afterwards the Romans, and since them the Kings of France and those of England enjoy'd it. In 861. the French King and Emperor Charles the Bald bestow'd the Countries included betwixt the Seine and Loire upon Robert the Strong, Duke and Mar-  
ques*



quests of *France*, on Condition that he should defend them against the Incursions of the *Normans*; But the Posterity of *Robert* having obtain'd the very French Crown, (for his two Sons were Crown'd Kings, viz. *Eudes* in 898. and *Robert* in 922. and his great Grand-son *Hugh Capet* began the third Race of the French Kings) the Issue of *Tertulle* or *Terculf*, to whom the same *Charles* had given some part of *Anjou*, were accounted sole Counts of it, during part of the Ninth, the Tenth and the Eleventh Century. They grew so potent and famous, that *Fulk V.* became King of *Jerusalem* in 1131. and *Henry Plantagenet*, Son to *Godfrey III.* Count of *Anjou* and *le Mayne*, succeeded in the right of his Mother *Mathilda* to the Crown of *England*, under the Name of *Henry II.* His Son *Richard I.* surnam'd *Lions Heart*, enjoy'd likewise these Counties; but they were Confiscated upon his Brother *K. John* by *Philip August*, whose Successors gave them since several times in Portion to their Sons. The French *K. John* erected *Anjou* into a Dutchy in 1360. in behalf of his second Son *Lewis*, who became afterwards King of *Naples* and *Sicily*, Count of *Provence*, and Titular King of *Jerusalem*. *Charles* the last of that Family instituted *K. Lewis XI.* his Universal Heir, and ever since this Province has been an *Appannage*, or part of the Portion of the second Son of the French Kings, as it is now enjoy'd by *Philip Duke of Orleans*, *Lewis XIV's* Brother.

The City of *Angers*, or *Fuliomagus Andegavorum*, *Andegavae*, or *Andegavi*, is situated on the River *Mayenne*, after it hath receiv'd the *Sarte* and the *Loire*. It's the Capital of this Province,



Province, having divers Seats of Justice, Præsidial, Seneschallship, Bailiwick, Election, a Mint where Money is coyn'd at the Letter F, an University, and a Bishoprick suffragan to Tours. It is seated in a Plain very fertile, producing delicate Fruits, and very good Wine; the River Mayenne divides it into 2 parts, whereof the greatest which is call'd the City, lyes on the steep of a little Hill, where the Church of St. Maurice, and the Castle of Angers are to be seen. This Church (which is the Cathedral) is distinguished from all others by 3 high Steeples raised up on the body of the Church, the middle of which, being built on an Arch, and underpropt only by the two others, is accounted a Marvel. On solemn Days are shewn the Relicks, as the Sword of St. Maurice, one of the pretended Pitchers wherein our Lord chang'd Water into Wine, said to be brought from Jerusalem by Renatus K. of Sicily, and resembling a Jasper. Here is the Tomb of this Prince, whose Body was brought hither from Aix in Provence, as also his Picture drawn by himself. The Chapter of the Cathedral is composed of 29 Canons, a Dean, a great Archdeacon, a Treasurer, an Arch-deacon beyond the Mayenne, an Archdeacon beyond the Loire, a Singer, two other Treasurers, and a Penitentiary.

This City has been beautify'd and encreas'd from time to time by its Counts, but especially by our King John, who built that part which lyes now beyond the Mayenne; some surname it the Black City, because its all covered with Slates.

Angers



*Angers* is much resorted unto, at a Festival which the Roman Catholicks call *La-Fete-Dieu*, the Feast of God. Then you may see all the Priests and Monks, and 4000 Inhabitants, bearing as many kindled Torches; and withall as many engraven Histories of the Holy Scripture, as there are Wards in the City. This Ceremony has been Instituted to atone for the pretended Crime of the Archdeacon *Berenger*, who opposed Transubstantiation in its birth.

At the solicitation of some studious Persons, *Lewis XIV.* instituted lately a Royal Academy at *Angers*, with the same prerogatives as that of *Paris*, save the right of *Committimus*, that is, the Privilege of bringing the Suits wherein its Members are concern'd before his Masters of Requests, at the first motion. This Academy is compos'd of 30 Members, who must all be *Angevin* Men born, or at least settled Inhabitants of *Anjou*. They are not to meddle with Matters of Religion and Divinity, nor with Politics, unless it be by the King's Directions, nor to judge of any Composures besides their own: They have four Officers, a Director, a Chancellor, and two Secretaries. The Bishop, the King's Lieutenant in the City and Castle of *Angers*, the President, Lieutenant General, and King's Attorney in the Presidial, and the Mayor of the City may assist at their Assemblies, tho not at the time of the Elections.

Going out of the Suburbs towards *Saumur*, you meet at a place call'd *Greban* with some remains of a Roman Amphitheatre, and several Medals have been extracted thence. The French Kings are Canons of this Church by their very Title



Title to the Crown. The most Ancient Bishop of this Church was one *Defensor*, who has been since related into the number of Saints, and lived in the fourth Century. Here are likewise many Collegiate Churches, divers Parishes, 3 Abbies, viz. those of *St. Aubin*, *St. Nicholas*, and *St. Sergius*, as also Monasteries and Seminaries, and the Chappel of *St. Saviour*, built in remembrance of a Victory gotten by the Inhabitants of *Anjou* on one Lord of *St. Sauveur*, who together with the Normans had laid Siege to that City. The Castle is flanked with 18 great round Towers, and a half Moon, and built upon a Rock, with a large Ditch at the foot of it. There is a rare Engine by which they may lift up such things as they stand in need of: However, in 1585. the Protestants master'd this Castle, but were soon expell'd by the Inhabitants. By reason of the strength of this place, Prisoners of State are oft sent thither.

This City of *Angers* is governed by a Mayor and 24 Sheriffs. The University founded in the Year 1498. by *Louis II.* is famous for the Civil and Canon Law, and has had famous Professors, and bred up many Learned Scholars. *Angers* lyes 17 leagues East N. E. of *Nants*, 25 West of *Tours*, and 66 South-west of *Paris*. The Fathers of the Oratory have here a Colledge for Divinity and Philosophy.

*Saumur* is situated upon the River *Loire*, about 10 leagues from *Angers* to the South-east: it is as pleasant a place as can be seen, and Strangers are mightily taken with it, for the Town is seated at the foot of a Hill, Wall'd in, and



and defended with Towers, but commanded by a Castle fortify'd with three Bastions, lin'd with large square Stones. The prospect of the Castle on the *Loire*, and the neighbouring Plains, is very delightful. The strength of this place gives occasion to the Learned *De Valois* to derive its name from the Latin *Salvari*, because its Fortifications preserve its Inhabitants from the attempts of their Enemies, so that *Saumur* should have been said for *Sauf-mur*, and *Salmurus* for *Salvus murus*.

*Saumur* is a new Town, being not much above six hundred years standing. There is a Chappel under the Name of Our Lady *des Ardidiers*, which has been much frequented by reason of pretended Miracles; but since the Reformation, that Trade being much decay'd, *Saumur*, which was then but a small place, would not have grown considerable, had it not been given to the Protestants for one of their Towns of Security. It's in that Quality that *Phillip du Plejis Mornay* was Governour there in *Henry IV's* time, that famous Assertor of the Christian and Protestant Religion, whose Works are still the admiration of the Learned, and did so puzzle the Roman Catholicks of his time, that they would needs have all the Ministers of *France* to have contributed to their Perfection. But what drew most People to *Saumur*, was a Protestant University for Divinity and humane Learning. Here have flourished about the end of the last Age and the beginning of this, that renown'd Scotch Divine *J. Cameron*, who was succeeded by 3 Professors, the like neither *France*, nor perhaps *Europe*, ever saw read by turns in one

O Chair



Chair, viz. *Lewis Cappel*, *Moses Amyrauld*, and *John de la Place*, as famous for their Learning, as for their mutual Friendship. At the same time liv'd that great Critick *Tanneguy le Fevre*, who has left a Daughter yet living, Heiress of his knowledge in the *Greek* and *Roman Antiquities* and *Tongues*, as appears by her *Translations* and *Commentaries*. *Stephen Gaussen* liv'd not long enough to shew his Parts, but by four small *Treatises* we have of his, it may be judg'd what great man he would have been, had God been pleas'd to grant him longer to the *French Protestants*. In 1684 *Lewis XIV.* pull'd down this University, which, together with the following *Persecution*, depopulated *Saumur* at that rate, that it looks now as a *Solitude* to what it was before. The *Fathers* of the *Oratory* have here a fine *Colledg*, and the *Church* of *St. Peter*, newly built, is considerable. A Mile from the *Town* are *subterraneous Vaults*, reaching half a *League* in length.

*La Fleche*, *Flecchia* or *Fixa* is situated upon the *Loir*, towards the *Frontiers* of *Maine*, being twelve *Leagues* from *Angers* to the *North-East*. There is a very fine *Colledg* of *Jesuits* founded by *Henry* the IV<sup>th</sup>. Anno 1603. It consists of three bodies of *Lodgings* capable to lodge the *King* with all his *Court*. The *Heart* of *Henry* the *Fourth* is buried in one of the *Chappels* under the *Steps* whereby they ascend the *Altar*, according to his desire, having order'd that the most noble *Part* of him after his death, should be put in that *Castle* where he was conceived.

The *Jesuits* have another *Colledg* at *Dole* in the



the *Franche-Conty*, at a place called *Arc*, which gave occasion to this ingenious Distich, alluding to the signification of *Arc* a Bow, and *la Fleche*, an Arrow:

*Arcum Dola dedit Patribus, dedit Alma  
Sagittam  
Gallia, quis funem quem meruere dabit.*

Dole to the Fathers gave a Bow  
Kind France an Arrow gave,  
Will none a String on them bestow,  
They long deserv'd to have

*Lude Lusdum* is situated on the River *Loir*, about 14 Leagues from *Angers* to the North-East, having the Title of a County since 600 years.

*Pont de Se*, or *Ponts de Ce*, *Pons Sai*, or *Pontes Caesaris*, is a Town and a Castle seated in an Island of the River *Loire*. The Town consists of a long Street with a Bridge of half a Mile in length, at each end towards *Brissac* and *Angers*, from which it is at two Leagues distance. Some pretend that these Bridges have been built by *Cæsar*, who kept here a Garrison, but since the Latin Authors of the French History call the place *Saium* or *Seium*, it seems not natural, to fetch from so far, and without Warrant too, the original of that Name.

*Brissac*, *Braccum Saccum*, or *Brisiacum*, in old French *Brachefec*, or *Brochesac* lies on the River *Aubance*, *Albantia*. It's a little Town with the Title of a Duchy, erected in favour of *Charles of Cassé*, *Marschal of France*. It



is situated in a very fine Country, nigh to *Pont de Ce*, seven Miles South-East of *Angers*. There are at *Brisac* a very fine Castle, a great Park, and a large Pond of about a League in length.

*Doue*, *Theotvadum Castellum*, *Diadum* or *Doem*, lies seven Leagues South-East of *Angers*, near the source of the *Tuay Tiedum*, which discharges it self into the *Loire*, after it has receiv'd three other Rivulets, the *Toret*, the *Argenton*, and the *Dive*. It's the Tradition of the Vulgar, that this Town has been considerable in the *Romans* time; and that they built there an Amphitheater, which, tho' it had but 1600 foot in Circuit, was able to contain 15000 Spectators. The remains of this Building are still made use of by the Inhabitants to act Comedies every Year; there are twenty two steps cut for the most part in the Rock, and the Walls are rais'd without Mortar. Besides this Monument there are vestiges of an old way from *Doue* to *Pont de Ce*, several subterraneous Vaults, and a Wall of an extraordinary depth. Nevertheless the Learned *De Valois* pretends that *Doue* was not a *Roman* work, but one of the four Palaces or Country-Houses of the Kings of *Aquitain*, and grounds his opinion on several passages of the old Historians of the *French*; besides that the Frame of this Amphitheater was not adapted to Publick Shews. The *French* King keeps a Garrison here.

*Bauge*, *Balgeium* or *Balgiacum*, had yet in *Du Chesne's* time a Presidial-Seat, which has been since transfer'd to *la Fleche*. However it has still an Election as well as *Angers*, *Saumur*, *la Fleche*,



*Fleche, Monstreuil-Bellay and Chateau-gontier*, which depend all six on the Generality of *Tours*. *Beauge* has been built by *Fulk Nerra*, Count of *Anjou*, near the source of the *Conesnon*, seven Leagues South-East of *Angers*. In 1286. the French King, *Philip the Bold*, assign'd a Portion of 2000 Livres to Queen *Margaret* his Mother upon the *Chastellenies* of *Bauge*, and *Beaufort en Vallee*, which I observe, to shew how scarce money was at that time. *Du Val* speaks of a Victory, obtain'd by the French over the English at *Bauge* in 1420, which should then be the very year of *Charles the VI's* Death, when the English and Burgundians were most powerful, and the affairs of the Dauphin *Charles VII* at the lowest ebb.

*Beaufort en Vallee*, *Bellum forte in Valle*, is a pretty Town and Castle, as its name signifies, lying betwixt the Rivers *Conesnon* and *Authion*, five Leagues East of *Angers*. It has the Title of a County, and being of the antient *Deemesne* of the French Crown, has been oft separated from and reunited to it. Now it belongs to the House of *Beaumanoir-Lavardin*.

*Monfureau, Mons Sorelli*, near the Confluence of the *Vienne* and *Loire*, and the borders of *Touraine*, thirteen Leagues East South-East of *Angers*, has the Title of a County, and is noted for a Battel fought there against the Normans in 879.

*Brese* lies three Leagues Westwards upon the *Loire*, has the Title of a Marquisate, and a Castle fortify'd with deep Motes and subterraneous Vaults. There are a fine Garden and a Wood of Cypresses belonging to it.



Monte-ian, Mons *Johannis*, upon the River *Loire*, five Leagues South-West of *Angers*, is noted for having given name under the Reign of *Francis I.* to a Vain-glorious Marshal of *France*, who to mimick Kings, sent and receiv'd Embassadors, and was much laughed at the Courts of *France* and *Spain*. *Ingrande* on the same River, a League farther to the West, is a good Trading Town.

Font-evraud, *Fons Everardi*, a famous Abby of Nuns, Chief of an Order of that Name, founded by Robert of Arbrissel, in 1100, lies on the borders of Poictou, fourteen Leagues South-East of Angers. It's said that the Sermons of Arbrissel drawing great number of People after him, he built them Cells or Cabins in the Forest of Fontevraud, and afterwards shut up the Women in a separate place. Whether it was to make a *Serrail* or a *Cloister*, I know not, but 'tis reported of this H. Man that he lay in Bed with them to mortifie the flesh. However it be, this Monastery has been successively governed by fourteen Princesses.

Craon, Credo, is a little Town seated on the Oudon, towards the Frontiers of *Maine* and *Bretaign*, twelve Leagues North-West of *Angers*. It hath given Name to the Illustrious Family of the Barons of *Craon*, known since the *XIV* Century. This Barony fell Anno 1586, to the House of *la Trimouille*, by the Marriage of *Guy* the VI. Lord of *la Trimouille*, with *Mary* of *Sulli*, only Daughter and Heiress of *Louis* of *Sulli*, and *Isabella* of *Craon*. This Town suffer'd much during the Civil Wars, Anno 1562.

Chateau



*Chateau Gontier, Castellum Guntherii*, is on the River *Mayenne*, ten Leagues North of *Angers*. It was rais'd from a Country-House to a Castle and a Town by *Fulk*, 111th. Count of *Anjou*, who gave it the name of his Tenant there. The other Towns or Barroughs of any consideration in this Province are *Cande Condare*, *le Lyon d'Angers*, *Segre Secretum*, *Poiancey*, *Chateauneuf*, *Durestail*, &c.

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### Of Touraine.

**T**OURAINE, or *Turonus*, *Ager*, is situated between *Blaisois*, *Vendamois*, *Maine*, *Anjou*, *Poitou* and *Berri*; it hath the Title of a Dutchy; is twenty four Leagues in its greatest length, and as much in breadth. Because of its fertility in all things, especially in Fruit, many term it the *Garden of France*. The chief Rivers which water it are the *Loire*, the *Indre*, the *Cher*, the *Indroise*, the *Vienne*, &c. whose course may be seen in the general description of this Government. The Inhabitants of *Touraine*, called in French, *Tourangeaux*. and in Latin, *Turones* and *Turani*, were already powerful in *Cesar's* time, since their *Cotta*, for the relief of *Alesia*, besieged by that General, amounted to six thousand Men. In the fourth Century, when *Gaul* was divided by the *Romans* into seventeen Provinces, *Tours* became the Capital of the third *Lyonnoise*, and



consequently, a Metropolitan; tho' the City it self and a great part of its dependencies, lying on the South of the *Loire*, seem more properly to belong to *Aquitain*. And therefore when *Charlemagne* divided his Dominions between his Sons, 'tis expressly noted, that he gave all *Aquitain* and *Gascony*, excepting *Touraine*, to his beloved Son *Louis*.

The City and Arch-Bishoprick of *Tours Turonum*, or rather *Cæsariodunum Turonum*, is situated upon the *Loire*, and much frequented by Merchants, because of the conveniency of that great River, and the *Cher*, but especially, because of their Brocads, and other Silk Manufactures. The Metropolitan Church of *St. Gratian* is worth the curiosity of Strangers. This Saint was the first Bishop of it at the end of the second Century: he had for his successors, many famous Prelates, particularly *St. Lidoire*, *St. Martin*, *St. Gregory of Tours*. Since I have made mention of *St. Martin*, I cannot forbear this History, related by *Du Chesne*. King *Clovis*, soon after his Conversion to Christianity, made an Offering of his own Horse, to the Tomb of this Saint, sending immediately an hundred pieces of Gold to redeem it; but when he would mount it, the Horse could not go until he had sent five-fold the Money. It seem'd, says my superstitious Author, as tho' its feet had been fastened to the Ground. And so I believe they were, or something very like it; for I never read in the H. Scripture, that God wrought Miracles, only on purpose to enrich his Prophets or Apostles, at the expences of Kings or People. The French Papists have still an extraordinary



traordinary veneration for this H. Man. It were to be wish'd they would imitate his Christian moderation; for this good Bishop would never communicate with *Idacius* and *Ithacius*, who had procur'd the death of the Heresiarch *Priscillian*.

The Diocels of *Tours* is very large, being distributed under three Arch-Deacons, one of *Tours*, another beyond the *Loire*, and the third beyond the *Vienne*, comprehending twenty great Abbies, above an hundred Monasteries, twenty Collegiate Churches fill'd up with Prebendaries, four hundred Parochial Churches, whereof sixteen are within the City. Besides the famous Abby of *Marmoutier*, and the fine Church of *St. Martin*, on which six Abbotships depend, viz. *Beaujeu*, *Cormery*, *Villeloin*, *Pruilly*, *Noyers* and *Chinon*. But the jurisdiction of the Metropolitan is far much larger, for the Bishops of *Angers* and *le Mans*, and the nine Prelates of *Brittany* are his Suffragans.

There is a Gate called corruptively, *la porte Fourgon*, whose right name is *la porte du Roi Hugon*, King *Hugon's Gate*. Some derive from thence the Nick-Name of *Hugonots*, given to the French Protestants, because they us'd to assemble at Night in subterraneous Vaults, near the Gates of this City, to avoid the rage of their Persecutors, and therefore were called *Hugonoti*, *Hugonots*, as tho' they had been Disciples of King *Hugon* or *Huguer*. This *Hugon* seems to have been an antient Count of *Touraine*, who repair'd this Gate, but it is now look'd upon by the superstitious Inhabitants, as a kind of Hobgoblin that goes about the City Walls, and



beats the Night-Walkers he meets with.

Others feign a more illustrious original of this name, pretending that it was imposed on the *French Protestants*, when the League was most powerful. And that as the House of *Guise* gave privately out to have a better Title to the Crown than the Kings that then were, as being descended from *Charlemaign*; so the Leaguers nick-nam'd the abettors of the Reformation *Hugonots*, as favourers of the Posterity of *Hugh Capet*, the head of the third Race of the *French Kings*. However it be, the *Protestant Religion* made at first great Progresses in this City; and for this reason it was that it stood firm by the *French Kings*, *Henry III.* and *Henry IV.* So that when the Parliament of *Paris* declar'd for the League, the Loyalists that could make their escape, retir'd to *Tours*, and erected there another Court of Justice, which cashier'd all the Edicts of the Parliament of *Paris*, tending to promote the Rebellion.

Near St. Martin the Fair, is still shewn the Plain, where Charles Martel Duke or Generalissimus of the French, defeated the Saracens in 726, killing 375000 of their Men with their King Abderame, tho' he lost but 1500. But some moderate and very accurate Authors pretend that there is a mistake, or overplus of 300000 in that Calculation.

Tours has a Bayliwick and Presidial-Seat, an Election and a Generality, to which those of Amboise, Chinon and Loches, all those of le Mayne and Anjou, and some of Poitou, do resort. Here was formerly Money coyn'd, that went throughout all the Kingdom, whence come still the



the names of *Deniers*, *Sous* and *Liures Tournois*. The form of *Tours* is somewhat oval, the streets being long and clean, and the Houses cover'd with Slates, as well as the Walls of the City.

Near a Village called *Columbiers*, two Leagues East of *Tours*, is a subterraneous Vault called *La Cave Gouttiere*, or the dropping Cave, where the drops of Water freeze and petrify as they fall along the Walls. The cold is here extraordinary in Summer, tho' this seems not to be the sole cause of it. There is also the House and Castle of *Plessis*, worthy to be seen for the fine Orchards and Gardens belonging to it. But as to the Castle of *Tours*, it is old and ruin'd. *Tours* lies twenty five Leagues West of *Angers*, and 46 South-East of *Paris*.

*Ambouise* or *Ambacia*, situated on the confluence of the *Loire* and *Amasse*, having a Royal Castle built by *Charles* the Eighth to distinguish the place of his Birth, which was also that of his Death. This Town is pretty antient, for *Gregory* of *Tours* says, That *Clovis* and *Alaric* had an Interview in the Island nigh *Ambouise*, which Island is now within the Town. The *Normans* afterwards ruined it, but it was soon repair'd by *Fulk* III. Count of *Anjou*, and is now a very fine Town, tho' not very big. The Healthfulness of the Air has oft drawn the *French* Kings hither; and at such a time it was that some *French* Protestants designing to rid themselves of the *Guisards*, who kept *K. Francis* II. in a manner Prisoner, were discovered in their Attempt, and paid for it with their Lives, in 1560. *Ambouise* belong'd a long time to the Counts of *Anjou*, as to its Founders



or Repairers, then it had particular Lords. *Charles VII.* seiz'd it from *Lewis Viscount of Thouars*, &c. because he took part with the *English*. *Lewis XI.* Instituted here the Order of *St. Michael*, August 1. 1469. *Amboise* lies 3 Leagues West of *Tours*, and 9 East of *Orleanse*. It seems to owe its first Original to a Bridge of Boats, which the *Romans* made here.

The Town of *Loches*, *Luce* or *Lozie*, is situated upon the River *Indre*, Nine Leagues South East of *Tours*. *Eustachius* fifth Bishop of *Tours* founded here a Monastery, whereof he constituted one *Ursus* the first Abbot, under the Reign of *Alaric*, King of the *Goths*. *Loches* was already a strong Place, under the first Race of the Kings of *France*; but *Carloman* and *Pepin*, Brothers and Generals of the *French* took, and rais'd it in 742. It was since repair'd, and fortified with a Castle built on the top of an inaccessible Rock, defended with Towers and Bulwarks, and being 12000 Steps in Circuit; so that it could not be taken by the *English*.

This Country was the Patrimony of the first Counts of *Anjou*; there they kept their Prisoners of State: But *Charles* the VII. did make his ordinary Residence in it. *Louis* the XI. did add divers Apartments to the Castle, particularly a dark Dungeon, where he kept *Cardinal de Balue* Prisoner a long time. Here it was that *Louis* the XII. imprisoned *Ludovic Storce*, where that Duke died, and was buried in the Church of *Notre-Dame*. Here also is to be seen the Tomb of *Agnes Sorelle*, or *Sorel*, Mistress of *Charles* the VII. the fairest Woman of her time; with her Statue of white Marble, done to the Life.

Hard



Hard by is a fine Forrest, where the Counts of Anjou, and the French Kings used to Hunt. Du Chesne relates, that in this Castle there was an Iron-Gate, which through a long Lane cut in the Rock, lead to a square Room, where was found a Man 8 Foot long, sitting on a great Stone, and leaning his Head on his Hands, as tho' he had slept; but it went all to Dust, as soon as it felt the Air, excepting the biggest Bones, and the Cranium, which were long preserved in our Ladies Church.

On the South-side of the River lies the Abby of Beaulieu, founded on behalf of the Benedictines by Fulk Nerra, Count of Anjou. There is a Pyramide 10 or 12 Fathoms long, in the hollowne's of which are some Characters, that could never be Uncipher'd; so that it is still doubted, whether this is a Monument of the Goths, or of the ancient Gauls? Liches has a Baillyst, and a Royal Seat of Justice, resorting to the Presidial of Tours.

The City Chinon, or Chinn, almost 10 Leagues South West of Tours, is situated upon the Vienne, with a Castle, having a Governour, and Regal Seat of Justice. Gregory of Tours relates, that the Romans besieging this Town under the Conduct of Ægidius or Gillon, turn'd off the Course of the Vienne, and stop't a Well whence the Besieg'd drew their Water; so that they would have been forced to surrender, had not a violent Rain fallen on a sudden, which fill'd up their Ditches, and terrified the Romans so, as to make them raise the Siege.

Here



Here *Charles* the VII. made his Retreat, and here it was that *Jeanne d'Arc*, since call'd the Maid of *Orleans* came to find him, Anno 1426. *Francis* the first Duke of *Bretagne*, did Homage to the same King in that place, Anno 1443. Here are the Canons of the College of *St. Mesme* are immediately subject to the Pope. This also was the Country of *Fr. Rabelais*, famous for his Comical Tales.

*Cande*, *Condate*, lies on the Confluence of the *Vienne* and *Loire*, 7 Miles North West of *Chinon*. *L'Isle-Bouchard* lies in an Island of the River *Vienne*, 9 Miles South East of *Chinon*, with a Castle and fine Meadows. *La Haye*, *Ha-ga Turonum*, 9 Leagues South of *Tours*, and 6 South-East of *L'Isle-Bouchard* is seated on the River *Claise*, with the Title of a Barony, and is now famous for being the Native Country of that great Philosopher *Descartes*. *Prully*, *Prulliacum*, 6 Leagues higher to the East on the same River, has been sometime the Residence of the Learned *Joseph Scaliger*, who taught the Children of the Lord of *Prully*. *Paumy*, betwixt *La Haye* and *Prully*, has an antient Castle, and the Title of Viscounty.

*Maizieres* on the *Claise*, near the Borders of *Berry*, is the Capital of the small Country of *Brenne*, abounding with Game and Fishes, because of its many Ponds.

*Cbatillon*, on the River *Indre*, has a Royal Seat of Justice resorting to the Presidial of *Tours*, but its Election depends on the Generality of *Bourges*. *Langest*, near the *Loire*, 11 Miles West of *Tours*, produces excellent Melons. *Chenonceaux*, upon the *Cher*, 8 Leagues South East of  
Tours



*Tours* is renowned for a Royal House and Castle belonging now to the Duke of *Vendome*. It was built by *Q. Katherine of Medicis*, and adorn'd with fine Marbles and Statues, brought from *Italy*, among which, that of *Scipio Africanus* is much esteem'd. *Mont-Louis* a Burrough, near the *Loire*, betwixt *Amboise* and *Tours*, has all its Houses cut in the Rock, nothing appearing on the ground, but the top of some Chimneys amongst the green Turf.

The other places of note in *Touraine*, are *Montbazon* and *Maille* or *Luyes* two Dutchies. *St. Maure* a County. *La Roche-Pozay*, a considerable Lordship, seated on the *Creuse*, near the Borders of *Berry*. *St. Christopher*, *Chateau-Renaud*, near the River *Bransle*, and the Frontiers of *Maine*. *Montrichard*, on the *Cher*, *Montresor* on the *Indroise*, &c.

### Of *Blaisois*.

**B** *Laifois* lieth between *Berry*, *Orleanois*, properly so called. *Vend mois* and *Touraine*. It comprehends 3 small Countries, *Dunois*, *Blaisois* and *Soulogne*, which are as many Elections depending on the Generality of *Orleans*, and reaching together to an extent of twenty five Leagues in length North and South; but of a very unequal breadth, as six or seven Leagues in *Blaisois*, ten or twelve in *Soulogne*, and even sixteen in *Dunois*.

The



The soil in *Blaisois* is very fertile, agreeably interrupted with Mountains and Hillecks, cover'd with Vineyards, with Forests full of Game, and with Plains abounding with Gardens, Orchards, Meadows and Cornfields, besides that it is watered with many Rivers and Brooks. It has had its particular Counts, since the year 920, that *Charles the simple*, King of France, to gain the Normans, whom he could not subdue, was forced to divide in a manner his Kingdom with them. Thus he gave the Dutchy of Normandy to *Raoul* their General, and the County of *Blois* to *Gellon*, *Raoul's* Cousin, and one of his chief Captains. His Posterity were for a time the most powerful Lords in France, having acquir'd the Counties of *Chartres* and *Champaign*. And even after that *Tobaud* the IV. Count of *Champaign* had be- stow'd the Counties of *Blois* and *Chartres* on one of his youngest Sons *Tobaud* or *Tobebald* the good; these Counts made yet a great figure in France, till the year 1291, that *Guy* of *Chastillon*. Ild of that name, having no hopes of an Issue, sold his Estates to *Lewis* Duke of *Orleance*, Grandfather to the French King *Lewis* XII. since which time they were united to the Crown, and the County of *Blois* became often an appanage, or part of the portion of the youngest Brethren of the French Kings, as it is now of *Philip* Duke of *Orleance*.

*Dunois*, *Dunensis Pagus*, is almost as fruitful as *Blaisois*, tho' the Air be not so much esteem'd, nor the Country so Trading. Before the French Monarchy was fully settled, they were oft at variance with their Neighbours the *Blaisois*,  
and



and the *Orleannois*, for *Gregory of Tours* relates that after the death of *Chilperic*, the first King of *France*, the latter made an Irruption into the Country of the former. *Dunois* had afterwards its own Viscounts, since *Rotrou I.* Count of *Montagne*, &c. till it was sold to *Lewis Duke of Orleans*, whose Son *Charles* gave or exchanged it in 1430. for some other Lands with his Bastard Brother, that famous Warriour *John of Orleans*, to whom the present *French Kings* owe the best part of their Kingdom, reconquer'd from the *English*. The Issue of this great General, bears now the name of *Languerville*, and enjoys still the County of *Dunois*, that was erected into a Dutchy and Peerdom in 1525, by *Louis of Savoy*, Mother to *K. Francis I.* then Regent of the Kingdom.

*Soulagne* or *Sologne*, *Secalaunia* or *Segalonia*, is another small Country on the South of *Blaisois*, between the *Loire* and the *Cher*. Some derive its Latin name *Secalaunia*, from the abundance of Ry *Secale*, that grows in the Country; but *de Valois* takes it for a proper name, just such another as the *Segalauni* of *Dauphine*, the Inhabitants of *Valence*. However it be, *Sologne* depends for the Spiritual on the Bishop of *Chartres*, and is the fourth in number among his six Archdeaconships, and as for the Temporal, it resorts to the Bayliwick of *Blois*, as well as *Dunois*. It abounds with Fruits and Corn, and especially with Millet.

The City of *Blois*, *Blesum*, *Blese*, or *Castrum Blesense*, is situated upon the *Loire*, with the Title of County, Bailiwick, and Chamber of Accounts. It is almost equally distant from  
Orleans



*Orleans* and *Tours*, being near thirteen Leagues from the former to the East, and twelve from the latter to the West. This Town has some Antiquity; for tho' *Cæsar* does not mention it, and that there be no great reason to take it for the *Corbilo* of *Strabo*; yet it appears by *Gregory of Tours*, that the Inhabitants were already in some consideration in the V. & VI. Centuries; since in conjunction with the *Orleanois*, they invaded the *Dunais*, and Anno 584, kept Prisoner *Eberulf* in the Church of *St. Martin* at *Tours*. The sight of *Blois* is very pleasant on the steep of a Hill on the North-side of the *Loire*, the River running through the Town and Suburb *Vienne*, that are joyn'd by a Stone-Bridge, whereon is a Pyramid, erected in 1598. With an Inscription to shew that *Henry I V.* re-build'd it. There is a sumptuous Castle, begun by the Kings *Lewis XII.* and *Francis I.* beautified by Queen *Katharine of Medicis*, by the French King *Henry IV.* and by several Dukes of *Orleans*. As also a curious Garden adorn'd with Water-spouts and antick Statues. *Henry III.* call'd here twice the States of his Kingdom in 1577 and 1588, and during the last of these Assemblies, caus'd *Henry Duke of Guise*, and the Cardinal *Francis* his Brother, to be murder'd.

The excellency of the Air, and fertility of the Ground have given to *Blois* the Sir-name of, *The City of Kings*, or perhaps, it was because in this Country, they brought up the Children of the Fr. Kings, and that some of the Kings themselves have resided there. To which may be added, That the first Counts of *Blois* were the Fore-fathers of



of *Hugh Capet*, from whom the present Kings are lineally descended, These Counts were as Sovereign as are now the Electors and other Princes of *Germany*; for they coyn'd Money with an *Hebraick* Letter, a *Flower de luce*, and their own Name on one side; and on the backside a cross, with a *B.* and these two words *Castro Ble-fis*.

Besides what has been alledged for the antiquity of *Blois*, there are remains of an *Aqueduc*, wherein three Men can ride on Horseback abreast, and 'tis the common Tradition of the Inhabitants, that at a Village call'd *Orchese*, almost 5 Miles West of the Town, *Julius Cesar* kept his Magazines; which they endeavour to confirm by the Ruins of some great Buildings, Arches strong, and thick Walls, and the like Antiquities; but have no other ground that I know of.

As to new VVorks, besides the Castle and Gardens, there is a Tennis Court esteemed the biggest in *France*, being 57 Foot in length, and 20 in breadth.

Between *Blois* and *Orchese*, not far from that Village was discovered, about a hundred Years since, a Mine of *Terra Sigillata*, or seal'd Earth, which is pretended to be as good as that of *Lemnos*.

The Pasture Ground in the Valley of *Loire*, and the Exhalations that come out of the Vaults of *St. Gervais* are so wholesome, that the Milk of the Cattle that feeds thereabouts is excellent, especially the Cream that is esteemed one of the Dainties of the Country: The *Boon-Christian-Pears*, and *Perdigron Plums* are also rare Fruits,  
and



and amongst Handy-works, the Watches of *Blois* have got a Name through the whole Kingdom; but that which is most taking with Strangers, is the Purity of the *French* Tongue that is spoken here with a good Accent, as well by Country Men as by Gentlemen; and with all the charming Humour, and singular Honesty of the Inhabitants. I had almost forgotten that *Peter l'Hermite*, the first Preacher of the *Crusado's*, was a Native of *Blois*.

Tho' the Royal House and Park of *Chambort* or *Chambourg*, be not antient Monuments, yet they deserve a particular description. The House lies almost seven Miles West of *Blois*, on the South-side of the *Loire*, in the midst of the Park, and of a pleasant Forest. It was begun by King *Francis I.* at his coming out of the Prison, at the same time that he built *Madrid-Castle* near *Paris*; but tho' he employ'd eighteen hundred Workmen at the building of *Chambort*, during twelve years, yet it was not perfectly finished in his life time. A small Brook abounding with Fish, surrounds the Palace, which is adorn'd with many little Towers and Chimneys, that give a very fine prospect from far off, and the Forest is so pierced through, that it hinders not the view of the adjacent Meadows, nor even of the Town of *Blois*, from the top of the Towers. The most remarkable thing is a Winding Stair-Case of 274 Steps, so large that several persons can go abreast, and so contriv'd that those who go up on one side and come down on the other, cannot see each other, tho' they can talk together. Add to this, that one may throw



a Ball perpendicularly through the Newel, from the top of the Stairs to the bottom. At the end of the Queens Garden, which takes up five hundred acres of Land, towards the Forest of Blois, is a Lane of six thousand great Elms, a Mile in length, and six Fathoms in breadth. I pass over the other Curiosities to observe, that the Park is encompass'd with a square-Wall, lying as a *Parallelogramm* inclin'd along the Loire, and cut through the River Cousson, being three *Italian* Miles East and West, two Miles North and South-West, and one and two thirds North and South-East.

There are 6 other Towns of some consideration in the little extent of *Blaisois*, *Mer* or *Menars* the Town and the Castle, *Sucvre-cour-sur Loire* and *Die*; these two lie over against *Chambort*, the former on the North, the latter on the South-side of the Loire; *Onzain*, mid-way between *Ambroise* and *Blois*, *Landes* on the borders of *Vendomois*, and *Côntres* on the Frontiers of *Soulogne*.

*Chateau-Dun*, *Castellodunum*, is the Capital City of the little Country of *Dunois*, 11 Leagues North of *Blois*. It has its Name from the Hill, on which it's seated on the East-side of the Loire, *Dun* in old *Gaulish*, signifying a Hill; but I know not where *Duchefne* has found that it was antiently call'd *Rubeclara*, for *Urbs Clara*; because it may be seen from far off. There is a Castle strong by its Situation and Works; but the Suburbs are larger, and better built than the Town, which has been ruined by the Wars. It seems to have been considerable in the sixth Century, since *Sigebert*, first King of *Austrasia* erected



erected it into a Bishoprick; but *Papole* Bishop of *Chartres*, form'd such a Powerful Opposition to it in the fourth Council of *Paris* in 573, that *Promius* the new Prelate was forc'd to stand off his Right, and to lead a private Life. Another Mark of the former Greatness of this Town, are its Arms, three Half Moons, with these Words, *Extincta revivisco*, besides many Ruins. There is an antient Abby of *Cisterrians*, founded by *Charlemaign*, and several Collegiate and Parochial Churches.

*Chateaudun* has an Election and Royal Seat of Justice, on which depend the *Chastellenies* of *Montigny le Guanleon Courtalin*, *Monlitard*, *Lesciers* and *Rubetan*, according to *du Chesne*, but I find none of them in the most accurate Maps.

The other Towns of *Dunois* are *Alluye*, *Bonneval*, *Gloye*, *Moree*, *Freteval*, all upon the *Loire*; *Oucques*, *Marchenoir*, *Pathay*, *Bagnolet* on the East, *Dangeau*, *Brou-St. Romain*, *Anthou*, *la Bazouche-Gouet* on the West side of that River.

*Romorantin*, or *Remorentin*, *Rivus Morentini*, a Town and a Castle seated on the River *Sandre Salera*, eight Leagues South-West of *Blois*, is the Capital of *Sologne*, has the Title of a County, and is the Seat of the Election for that little Country. In 1597. the Monks, who suspected *Henry IV.* all his life, for having been once a Protestant, taught a young Maid called *Martha Brossier*, to counterfeit one that is possess'd of the Devil, and under that pretence, spread many things to the King's disadvantage. The Cheat succeeded in many places of the Diocese



process of Orleans, whither they carry'd her, but making bold to bring her to *Paris*, the Parliament took notice of it, and the pretended Devil was confin'd to her own Country. In 1560, Francis the XI. published here an Edict against the Protestants, under the Name of Hereticks. Du Chesne derives the Name of Romorantin from *Roma Minor*; and pretends it to be a Work of the Romans, because of some old Ruins. The learned Mr. Pajon, Minister of Orleans, who so ingeniously defended the Reformation in his Answer to the *Prejuges legitimes* of that famous Jansenist Mr. Nicole, was a Native of Romorantin. Millansay, a Burrough, and a Castle, call'd by Duchesne, *Militia Caesaris*, lies 2 Leagues Northwards. The other places of *Sologne* are *la Ferte-Aurain*, on the *Beuvron*, *Chatillon*, and *la Ferte-Imbaut* on the *Saandre*, *St. Aignan* and *Meneton* on the *Cher*, and *Nansay* on the *Raire*.



## Of Proper Orleannois.

**O**rleannois, properly so call'd, is situated between Berri, Gatinois, the Country of Chartres and Blaisois. Orleans is the antient City of Genabum, or Cenabum, mentioned by Cesar, Strabo, Ptolomy, and other antient Geographers. It's true, that the Description he makes of it, may in some manner be applied to Gien, Beaugency and Gergeau, because of the Proximity of those places to Orleans, and their Scituation on the Loire. But he who shall consider that the Chartrains Carnutes had two considerable Cities in their Country, viz. Autricum and Genabum, whereof the first is incontestably Chartres, shall not doubt but Genabum is Orleans. This may be prov'd; First, From a continued Tradition of the antient Historians of the French, who all agree in taking Genabum for Orleans; And secondly, From that there never was any other Town so considerable as Orleans under the Jurisdiction of the Chartrains.

In this Town then it was that Cesar took his Winter Quarters, and made it one of his chief Magazines for his Army. In 450. that barbarous Prince Attila, King of the Huns, so deservedly call'd the Scourge of God, as well as Lewis XIV, laid Siege to it: and the Inhabitants afraid of his Threatnings and Cruelties, would have



have surrendered themselves, had they not been encouraged by St. Aignan their Bishop with the hope of an unexpected Succours. And so it really fell out; for *Thierry* or *Theodoric* King of the *Goths* fearing lest, *Orleans* being taken, *Attila* should pass the *River Loire* and enter into his Dominions, came to the Relief of the Besieged, and charg'd the *Huns* in the Rear so effectually; that he forc'd them to raise the Siege and to withdraw into the Plains of *Sologne*, *Secalaunicis Campis* (and not *Catalaunicis*, for *Chalons* in *Burgundy* lies sixty Leagues from thence) where *Aetius* the Roman General assisted with the *Goths* and *Burgundians* under *Thierry*, and the *Franks* under *Meroveus* lever'd them Battle, defeated *Attila*, and kill'd 180000 of his men. *Childeric* fourth King of the *French* and Successor to *Meroveus*, having defeated *Gillon* or *Aegidius*, the last General the *Romans* had in *Gaule*, took *Angers*, *Orleans*, and whatsoever remain'd in their Possession on this side the *Loire*: But *Clovis* his Son pushed his Conquests so far into *Aquitain* by the defeat of *Alaric* King of the *Goths*, that after his death *Orleans* became the Head and Title of a new Kingdom, the Portion of his second Son *Clodimir*. This Prince reigned but thirteen years, having been kill'd in his Pursuit of the *Burgundians* in 524. In him began and ended the Kingdom of *Orleans*, for *Clotarius* his Brother, who had spoused his Widow, made away his Issue. And tho' after *Clotarius's* death, *France* was again divided into four parts, yet *Orleans* was no more the Head of a Kingdom, for *Gontran* to whom it



fell to share, chose *Chalons* for the Seat of his Empire, and most of his Estates having formerly belong'd to the *Burgundians*, he took his Title from thence. And thence undoubtely it comes that *Fredegarius* reckons *Orleans* in *Burgundy*.

During the weakness of *Charlemaign's* Successors, this Town with several other Estates became the Property of *Hugh* the Great Duke of *France* and *Burgundy*, Count of *Paris*, &c. Father to *Hugh Capet* the Head of the third Race of the *French* Kings. This was apparently the cause that *Robert* Son, and *Henry* Grandson to *Capet* made oft their residence in *Orleans*, and that their Successors did never separate it from the Crown, till *Philip* of *Valois* gave it in Portion to *Philip* his fifth Son, dead without Issue in 1375. *Lewis* second Son to *Charles* the V. got it afterwards, and was Grandfather to *Lewis* the XII. who ascended the Throne after *Charles* VIII. since that it has been several times the Portion of the youngest Sons of those Kings, as 'tis now enjoy'd by *Philip* of *France*, *Lewis* the XIV's Brother.

As to the Ecclesiastical State, *St. Altin* is reckoned the first Bishop of *Orleans*, and in the sixth Century five National Councils were kept here in less than forty years, viz. in 511, 533, 538, 541, and 549. for settling the Ecclesiastical Discipline, the Election, Rights and Limits of the Metropolitans. The Prelates of this Church on the day of their inthronization have the Priviledge of delivering a Prisoner, and of being carry'd to the Cathedral on the Shoulders of the five ancientest Barons of the



their Diocess, viz. those of *Yeu-le Chastel*, *Sulli*, *Cheray*, *Acheres* and *Rongemont*.

*Gregory of Tours* relates that when King *Gontran* made his solemn Entrance into this City, *Latins*, *Syrians* and *Jews* proclaim'd his Praises each in his Tongue ; whether these different Nations were learned Men, or foreign Merchants, who inhabited or frequented this Town for the sake of Trade, I shall not peremptorily determine ; tho' the latter seems to me the most probable. However it be, King *Phillip* the Fair founded here an University for the Civil Law in 1312. to which Pope *Clement* the V. added the Cannon Law, in thirteen hundred sixty seven. The Scholars are divided into four Nations, *French*, *Germans*, *Normands* and *Piccards*, each of which has its particular Officers. There are two common and well furnish'd Libraries.

This City has also undergone the various fate of War. We have already seen how it was rid from the hands of the barbarous *Attila*. In 1417. it stood out a long Siege against the *English*, on behalf of the French King *Charles VII*. The besieg'd were so weak'n'd and famish'd that they had resolv'd to surrender themselves to the Duke of *Burgundy*, but the *English* would not allow of it, tho' this Prince was their Ally, and then in their Army. This refusal may be reck'n'd one of the chief causes of the Expulsion of the *English* out of France, as it was the fatal period of the progress of their Arms. For as on the one hand it gave a mighty disgust to this Duke, one of the most potent Princes in Europe ; so on the other,



French were not loath to make an advantage of it. They set up a young Maid, a Shepherdess of about eighteen years, who pretending a Revelation to raise the Siege of *Orleans*, and bring the King triumphing into *Rheims*, in order to his Coronation, so encourag'd their dispirited Army, and fright'nd the Enemies, that she perform'd her promises; assisted by the Valour and Conduct of the famous Count of *Dunis*, but perhaps more by the jealousies rais'd between the *English* and the *Burgundians*, and then by the Civil Wars of the *English*. The Day of the Raising of this Siege, which was the Eighth of *May* 1418. is still kept as a Solemn Festival in *Orleans*, and a Monument of this Victory has been erected on the Bridge of the City. It represents the Bl. Virgin with our Saviour in her Arms as ready to be buried; on one side lies King *Charles VII.* upon his Knees, and on the other the Virgin of *Orleans*, (as they call her now) Booted and Spurr'd as a Trooper. This Maid was call'd *Jeanne d'Arc*, she was a Native of *Vaucouleurs* in *Lorraine*, but her Family being Nobilitated by the French Kings, had their Name chang'd into that of *Lys, Flower de Luce*, in memorial of her Services to that Crown.

During the Reign of *Francis II.* in 1560. the Duke of *Guise*, under the pretence of the conspiracy of *Amboise*, disarm'd the Inhabitants of *Orleans*, fill'd the suspected Houses with Soldiers, and then brought the young King, as triumphing, into the City. And well he might triumph, for he had gain'd his point so far, as to cause the Prince of *Conde* to be sentenc'd to lose



lose his Head. But the Death of *Francis II.* forc'd him to alter his Politicks. In 1562. the *Protestants* under the Command of the same Prince of *Conde*, seiz'd upon this place, and the Duke of *Guise* himself was kill'd besieging it. However the *Roman Catholics* retook it, but *La Noue*, one of the stoutest Commanders the *Protestants* ever had, master'd it again, five years after. In 1583. it declar'd for the *Leaguers* by the Intreagues of one *Rossieux*, Secretary to the Duke of *Mayenn*, but it submitted to the French King *Henry IV.* in one thousand five hundred ninety four.

The Name of *Orleans* comes undoubtedly from the *Latin Aureliani*, by which the *Roman Historians* after the second Century do call this City. There is still however some remains of the antient appellation of *Genabum*, in a nickname given to such Inhabitants as have not Travelled abroad, viz. *Guepin*, which I am apt to take for an abbreviation of *Guenapin*, *Genabinus*.

This City is seated on the steep of an Hill on the Northern side of the *Loire*, that washes its Walls, and represents almost the figure of a stretched Bow. In sight of the Town, and the middle of the River is a pleasant Island cover'd with great Trees and Buildings. This Island is joyn'd with a Bridge on one side to the Town, and on the other, to the Suburb of *Pontereau*. This Bridge has 16 Arches, and 'tis upon it that the Monument of *Jeane d' Arc* is erected.

*Orleans* is large and well built, the Streets are broad, strait and neat, being pav'd with a small square-stone. Some of the Markets are fine,



spacious, and overshadow'd with Trees. The most Magnificent Churches are the Cathedral of *Sainte Croix*, and the Collegiate of *S. Aignan*. The body of the former is an hundred foot in length, sixty in breadth, and one hundred and two in depth. It has fifty nine Canons and nine Dignitaries; the latter has but thirty one Prebendaries, whereof eight are dignify'd. Both have been much defac'd during the Civil Wars of Religion, but the Cathedral was repair'd by *Henry IV.* There are twenty two Parochial Churches. The Town-House has a very high Tower, whence the whole City and Suburbs may be discover'd. The *Chastelet* or Pallace of the Justice, is also a remarkable Building, seated on the River. The Town has eight Gates, and is fortify'd with a Terrais, and surrounded with a Wall defended by 40 round Towers fill'd with Earth.

*Orleans* has a Bailiwick, to which the Royal Seats of *Bois-common*, *Chateau-renard*, *Tanville*, *Tevre-le-Chastel*, *La Neufoill-auxe Loges*, *Gien*, *Montargis*, *Clery*, *Meun*, *Baugency*, *Gergeau*, and *Pluviers* are resorting, that is all Proper *Orleanois*, and a great part of *Gastinois*. But the Generality of *Orleans*, reaches yet farther, comprehending all *Beauce*, in its greatest extent, that is the Country *Chartrain*, *Dunois*, *Vendomois*, *Blaisois*, Proper *Orleanois*, *Gastinois*, *Puisaie* and *Sologne*, and having under it the Elections of *Chartres*, *Chateau-dun*, *Vendome*, *Blois*, *Baujenci*, *Orleans*, *Pithiviers*, *Dourdan*, *Montargis*, *Gien* and *Romorantin*. The Diocess has six Arch-Deaconships, whose Titles are *Orleans*, *Pithiviers*, *Beausse*, *Sologne*, *Baujenci* and *Sulli*. *Orleans*



*leans* lies twenty six Leagues North of *Paris*, twenty nine West of *Auxerre*, and twenty four East of *Tours*, almost in the middle of the Course of the *Loire*, with a Haven very convenient for Trade ; which is the cause that the delicate Wines its Soil produces, and the excellent Brandies that are made here, are easily carry'd to *Nants*, and thence Transported into Foreign Countries.

*Gergeau* or *Fargeau*, *Gargogilum* or *Fargolum*, was an antient and noble Castle, and is still a pretty good Town, on the South side of the *Loire*, with a Bridge to pass that River, belonging to the Bishop of *Orleans*, four Leagues East of that City. In 1420. the Count of *Salisbury* took it for the *English* ; but the year following it was retaken by *John II. Duke of Alençon*, and the Virgin of *Orleans*, who made the Count of *Suffolk*, and several other Prisoners, to the number of four hundred, most of whom they had the Barbarity to kill. Next to *Fargeau*, is the Castle and Garden of *Jenaille*, with an artificial Rock made up of Shells and little glistering Stones of different colours, whence spring Water-spouts, that represent various figures.

*Sully*, *Solliacum*, four Leagues South-East of *Fargeau*, on the same side of the River *Loire*, is an antient Castle and Town with the Title of a Barony, that has produced two famous Bishops of *Paris* in the Twelfth Century, *Maurice* and *Odon* of *Sully*. It was erected into a Duchy and Peerdom by *Henry IV.* in 1606, to gratifie the Marquis of *Rosny*, who had done him to many services. This Lord was a Protestant,



and continu'd so all his life, notwithstanding the Apostacy of his Master. He has left *Memoirs* of what happen'd most considerable during his life, that are much esteem'd. The Lords of *Sully* have there a fine Castle, Park and Garden.

*Clery* upon the *Doure*, seven Miles South-East of *Orleans*, is a Village noted for a Church under the name of our Lady. The *English* plunder'd it, after the taking of *Aleuin*, in 1428. but the *French King Lewis XI.* repair'd it, and richly endow'd a Colleg of Canons, which he founded there, chusing it for his Grave.

The other places in the Election of *Orleans*, are *Chateau-Neuf*, *Ascheres*, *Bazoches*, *Artenay*. *La Ferte-Seneterre*, a Barony with a fine Castle, *St. Aubin*, *Onzouer* on the *Loire*, and *St. Benoit*.

*Baugency* or *Bois-jenci*, *Balgentiacum*, a Town on the River *Loire*, almost six Leagues South-West of *Orleans*, with an Election and an Arch-Deaconship. It's seated in a most pleasant Soil, fertil in Corn, Wine and Fruits; and abounding with Game. It's here that *Lewis VII.* assembled the Prelates and Barons of his Kingdom to be divorce'd from *Q. Eleanor* his Wife, says *Du Chesne*; to which *Mezeray* adds, *That the King pursu'd the Separation vigorously.* I cannot but admire the blind zeal of the *French Historians*, who to save the honour of this Prince, turn him into the greatest Blockhead that ever sate upon a Throne; when they make him divorce upon pretence of *Consanguinity* the rich Heiress of *Gayenn*, and to restore her Dowry, which did so mightily weaken him tho';



tho' he could not ignore she would deliver it into the hands of a potent Neighbour. The truth is, this was a trick of the Court of Rome to put a stop to the growth of the French Monarchy; lest those Kings should keep the Popes within the due limits of a Spiritual Jurisdiction, as the first Emperors of France and Germany had done. To compass their End, those crafty Priests made use of the love of Queen Eleanor for young Henry Plantagenet, Duke of Normandy, Count of Anjou, Maine, &c. and future King of England. For it was the Queen, who propos'd and pursu'd the Divorce at Rome, as *Too. Wikes*, an English Historian tells us. *Agitavit*, says he, *diutius lite inter Alienoram Reginam Francorum & virum suum Regem, ipsa Regina acriter petente Divorcium. ratione consanguinitatis quam proposuit inter se & virum suum; Aust. ritate Apostolica celebratum est Divortium inter eos. Instantius autem laborabat ad Divortium, eo quod ad Nuptias Henrici Ducis Normannie, & futuri Regis Angliæ ferventius aspirabat. Erat & ipsa filia Unica & Heres Ducis Aquitanie, quam nos Vasconiam nuncupamus. Solutoque Matrimonio inter ipsam & Regem, ad Nuptias Ducis quas concupierat illico convolavit. Hec secundum Historiæ veritatem huic opusculo dignum inferenda judicavi. Histor. Angl. script. Tom. II. p. 29.*

Here then it was that the sentence of that Divorce, so fatal to France was pronounc'd, on Tuesday before Palm Sunday 1152. Forty eight years before another National Synod had been held at Baugenci, on occasion of King Philip I. Marrying Bertrade of Montfort against



the advice of the Barons of his Realm. In 1428. *Baugenci* was taken by the Count of *Salisbury*, but retaken by the French after they had master'd *Meun*. This Town has had its own Lords since the middle of the Thirteenth Century, till 1544, that it was reunited to the Fr. Crown.

*Meun* or *Mehun* was an antient Castle, built on a Hilleck near the confluence of the *Marne* and *Loire*, on the North-side, to oppose the irruptions of the *Vandals*. *Meun*, *Magdunum*, *Maidanum* or *Maudunum*, is now an indifferent good Town, four Leagues South-West of *Orleans*, and two North-East of *Baugenci*. One *St. Lifard*, accompanied with *Urbicius*, laid here the Foundation of a Monastery, since turn'd into a Collegiate Church. After the taking of *Yanville*, *Meun* surrender'd to the Count of *Salisbury*, who put a strong Garrison in it; notwithstanding which, it was soon after retaken by the French. This Town was one of the Country-Houses most frequented by *Charles V.* and the Inhabitants have a Proverb to signify that he dy'd there in 1381, tho' Historians relate, that it was in another Country-House, call'd *Beauty*, upon the *Marne*. Whatever be of that, *Meun* gave its name to a famous Poet, a Dominican Friar, call'd *John Clopinel*, or *John of Meun*, who flourished about the end of the XIII. Century, and the beginning of the XIV. and finish'd the renown'd *Roman of La Rose*, begun by *William of Lorris*.

There are two other notable Burroughs in the Election of *Baugenci*, viz. *Chaumont* and *Ouzouer le Marche*.



*Pluviers*, or rather, *Pithiviers*, is the Head of another Election and Archdeaconship. The Latin Authors call it diversly *Periveris*, *Piverum*, &c. It's a Town and a Castle seated with a Bridge on the small River *Pinnere*, nine Leagues North-East of *Orleans*, near to a Village call'd *Pithiviers le Vieil*. It has an antient Priory depending on the Abby of *Cluny*, and founded in the Seventh Century; besides a Kings Court of Regal Justice, resorting to the Presidial of *Orleans*.

*Yanville* six Leagues West of *Pithiviers*, is another Regal Court of the Bailiwick of *Orleans*. The Fr. King *Henry IV.* took it after *Estampes*, on a Sunday, November 11. 1589. and Garrison'd the Castle.

*Yeure le Chastel*, a League East of *Pithiviers*, and *Neufville*, four Leagues South-West, are two other Regal Seats of Justice. The other Towns or Burroughs in this Election, are *Thoury*, *Antruy*, *Sermaizes*, *Soizi-Males-herbes*, *Bri-ares* and *Puizeaux*. This last is call'd so from the abundance of Wells, that are otherwise very rare in this Election, and the Country of *Gastinois*.

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## Of Gastinois.

**G**ASTINOIS, *Wastinensis*, or *Vastinensis Pagus*, has the Isle of France on the North and North-East, Bourgne on the East, Nivernois and Berry on the South, and Proper Orleans on the West, reaching thirty Leagues North and South from Mont le hery in the Isle of France, to Pouilly in Nivernois, and about sixteen Leagues East and West, where 'tis broadest, as from Chastenay in the Country of Chartres to Moret, in the Isle of France.

But 'tis to be observ'd, that that which now bears the name of Gastinois, is made up of two Countries, viz. *Pagus*, or *Comitatus Melidunensis*, the County of Melun, that has been united to the Government of the Isle of France, and *Pagus Wastinensis*, or Gastinois properly so call'd, that still depends on the Government of Orleans.

Gastinois is a Franco-German name, deriv'd from the Teutonic *WASTE*, that is yet in use in English; for we call Commons, Heaths, wild and desert Places *Wastes*, and the French having no *W*, do ordinarily change it into *G*, as *Guerre* for *War*. Thence it comes that they call so other Wildernesses, as *le Pais de la Gastine* in Berry. *St. Laurent en Gastine*, a Village in Vendomois, &c.

The



The Election of *Dourdan* is accounted by some in *Hurepoix*, and by others in *Gastinois*. It lies on the borders of the *Ile of France*, in which some place it, but it resorts to the Generality of *Orleans*, confining the Election of that City on the South, that of *Pithiviers* on the South-East, the *Ile of France*, on the North and North-East, and the Country of *Chartres* on the West.

*Dourdan*, *Dordingum*, was the Patrimony of *Hugh Capet*, belonging to his Grand-Father *Hugh the great*, Duke of *France*, Count of *Paris*, &c. who died here in 956. And therefore it was not separated from the Crown, till the time of the French King *Henry II.* who pawn'd it to the Duke of *Guise*. In 1556. it was sold to a Switzer Gentleman, *Inbert* of *Dutzbach*, a Native of *Berne*. Then it was acquir'd by the House of *Rosny*, and redeemed by *Lewis XIII.* in 1610. *Dourdan* lies upon the River *Orge*, fifteen Leagues North North-East of *Orleans*. It was formerly a pretty good Town, but has been almost ruin'd during the Civil Wars, under pretence of Religion, in 1562, and 1567.

*Estampes*, *Stampæ*, seated on the River *Juine*, *Junna*, near its mixing with the *Loe* (which takes afterwards the name of *Essonne*, from a Village it goes by, and discharges it self into the *Seine*) was formerly a considerable Town, for it had a Royal Palace under the Reign of *Robert King of France*. The Protestants took this Town by Scalado, in 1567, and the Castle by composition. This Castle founded by the said King *Robert* was since ruin'd in 1652, during



ing the civil War of the Princes; tho' their Army had the worst in a Battel fought near it. *Estampes* has an Election resorting to the Generality of *Paris*, yet is reck'ned in *Beauce*, and part of the Government *Orleanois*. It lies three Leagues South-East of *Dourdan*, and thirteen North East of *Orleans*. It was antiently a Viscounty, and of the Demesne of the French Crown. *Charles IV.* erected it into a County and Peerdom in 1327, for *Charles of Evreux* his Cousin, Then having been re-united to the Crown, *Charles VII.* gave it to *Richard Duke of Britany*, and *Lewis XII.* to *John of Foix*, in 1478. *Francis I.* rais'd it to a Duchy in 1536, on behalf of *Ann of Pisselen*, one of his Mistresses, whom he Marry'd to *John of la Brosse*; and *Henry IV.* to his Natural Son *Cæsar Duke of Vendôme*.

There are other places of some note in the Election of *Dourdan*, as *Rochefort* on the borders of the *Isle of France*, towards the North, which has given name to *Gui*, and *William of Rochefort* Chancellors of *France*, under *Lewis XI.* and *Charles VIII.* *St. Arnoul*, *Monnerville*, &c.

*Montargis*, *Mons Argisus* seems to have been built by *Angegisus*, Archbishop of *Sens*, and Vicar of the Roman See throughout *Germany* and *France*, in 876. for *Argisus* may be derived from *Angegisus*, by a Syncop, and the change of *N* into *R*, very familiar to the *French*, as they have made *Pampre* from *Pampinus*, *Diacre* from *Diaconus*, &c. In 1418. the Count of *Warwick* block'd up this Town, seated upon the *Loing*, fifteen Leagues North-  
East



East of *Orleans*, but the Count of *Dunois* coming to its Relief, forc'd the Trenches of the Besiegers, and kill'd fifteen hundred of them. In 1528. *Montargis* was burnt, and since rebuilt, and given by *Francis I.* to the Lady *Renee*, *Lewis XII's* Daughter, in part of her Portion, together with the Dutchy of *Chartres*. *Montargis* has an Election resorting to the Generality of *Orleans*. For the Spiritual it depends on the Archbishop of *Sens*, and for the Temporal on the Presidial of *Orleans*; if we believe *Du Chesne*; for *Morey* places a Bailiwick and Provostship in it.

The Canal of *Briare*, that joins the *Seine*, and the *Loire*, by means of the *Loing*, was begun here by *Henry IV.* and is of twelve Leagues extent. There has been since digg'd another, from *Montargis* to *Orleans*, of eighteen Leagues in length, making together with the *Loire* an irregular *Polygone*.

*Chaptillon sur-Loing*, *Castellio ad Lupam*; is a place of some consideration and antiquity. It lies upon the River *Loing*, and the Canal of *Briare*, nine Miles South of *Montargis*, and five South-West of *Chateau-renard* upon the *Ouane*. In 1569, both these places were taken from the Admiral of *Coligny*, to whom they belong'd.

*Lorris*, *Lauriacum* and *Lorriacum*, is the head of a small Country, near the Forest of *Orleans*, call'd *Pagus Lauriacensis*, *le pais de Lorris*. It's known how the *Goths*, *Franks*, *Vandals*, and other Northern Nations brought into the West and Southern Parts of *Europe*, the custom of deciding their Quarrels by Duels, or  
single



single Fights, and that the Magistrates not being able to overrule entirely this inclination, were forc'd to turn it into a Law, ordering that none should fight but before the Provost, or an appointed Judge; and in these publick and lawful Duels, the vanquish'd lost his Suit as well as the Day, and was forc'd to make reparation to the Victorious, either in Mony, or otherwise. But there was a custom in the Country of *Lorris*, which obtain'd throughout all *Gastinois*; That if two Men came rashly to challenge one another, and then to agree with the consent of the Provost, they were fin'd 2 s. 6 d. but if they fought, the Bayls of the Vanquish'd were fined 112 Shillings. And therefore 'tis still said in common Proverb, of a man too severely dealt with by the Judges: *Qu'il est des gens de Lorris, ou le battu paye l'amende.* That *He is a Lorris man, beaten and fin'd.* *Lorris* is ten Leagues distant from *Orleans* to the West, and six from *Montargis* to the South-East. In the XIII. Century, under the Reign of *Lewis IX.* it gave name to a famous Poet and Lawyer, *William of Lorris*, who began the Romance of *la Roze*, highly esteem'd in those days.

The other Towns or considerable Burroughs depending on the Election of *Montargis*, are *Ferrieres*, *Beaune*, *Briscommun*, *Choisi-Bellegarde*, and *Noyan*.

*Giën*, *Giemum* or *Gemiacum*, thirteen Leagues South-East of *Orleans*, and fourteen West of *Auxerre*, on whose Bishop it depends for the Spiritual. It's a pretty good Town seated on the River *Loire*, with an Election, and the Title



tle of a County ; for it has had, time out of mind, it's own Lords, till *Mathilda* or *Maud*, Countess of *Nevers* and *Tonnerre*, yielded it to the French King *Philip August*. Since it's fall'n again into the hands of particular Lords, and has been enjoy'd by the House of *Seguier*, which has given several eminent Magistrates to France ; amongst others, *Peter Seguier*, made Lord Keeper by *Lewis XIII.* in 1633. and then Lord Chancellor in 1635. There is a Stone-Bridge to pass the *Loire*, but it was broken in 1650. to hinder the passage of the Army of the Princes.

*B. i. re*, *Briundarum*, *Briobodorum* or *Briodorum*, is so call'd from a Gaulish word *Briua*, a Bridge, over which the *Loire* is past. Here ends the Canal of *Montargis*, that keeps the communication between the *Seine* and the *Loire*. Near this place it was that the Royal Army, and that of the Princes fought, in sixteen hundred and fifty. It lies two Leagues South-East of *Gien*.

*Cosne*, *Cona*, *Conada*, or rather *Condate*, this last being a Gaulish word, that signifies Confluence ; because the *Lore* receives here the small River of *Nozaim*, after it has water'd *Antrain* and *Donzi*. Some Geographers place *Cosne* in *Nivernois*, but it belongs more properly to *Beauce*, since it resorts to the Election of *Gien*, and the Presidial of *Orleans*, from which, it's twenty Leagues distant to the South-East. *Cosne* is renown'd for good Knives.

*St. Fargeau* is a Dutchy and Peerdom, Erected by *Charles the Ninth*, in 1569. This Town is the Capital of the little Country of *Puisaye*,



*Puisaye*, and lies upon the *Loing*, near a Forest, seven leagues North of *Cosne*, and twenty East of *Orleans*.

Between *Cosne* and *Briare*, seven Miles from each lies upon the *Loire*, the Burrough of *Neuvi*, which seems to have been formerly a considerable Town, since *Cesar*, who gives it the Name of *Noviodunum*, design'd to have besieg'd it, had he not been prevented by the Surrender of the Inhabitants. *Aimoin* calls it *Novus Vicius*, upon which the French name of *Neuvi* has undoubtedly been fram'd.

\* The other places of Note resorting to this Election, are *Blesneau*, *Ozouer* on the *Tre-ze*, *Chatillon* on the *Loire*, *Bonny*, *St. Amand* in *Puisaye*; all depending on the Bishop of *Auxerre*, for the Spiritual, and the Generality and Bayliwick of *Orleans* for the Temporal.

Of



## Of Nivernois

**N**IVERNOIS, *Nivernensis Pagus*, has *Gastinois*, *Puisaye*, and *Auxerrois* on the North, the *Dutchy of Burgundy* on th' East, *Bourbonnois* on the South, and *Berry* on the West. It's Figure resembles a round, somewhat flatted, and irregularly bent, being of the same length and breadth, viz. above twenty leagues North and South from *Tizy*, upon the *Loire* to *Clamecy* on the *Yonne*, and as many East and West from *Chateau-Chinon* to *La Guierche*. It's subdivided into eight smaller Countries, namely, the Valley of *Nevers* upon the *Loire*, the *Amognes* on the *Nieure*, the Valleys of *Montenoison*, the Vallies of *Yonne*, the *Morvan*, the *Bazois*, the County between the *Loire* and *Allier*, and the *Donizois* : The whole abounding with Wood, Pasture-Ground and Cattle, being water'd with many Rivers besides the *Loire*, the *Allier*, the *Yonne* and the *Cure*, and comprehending thirty good Towns. Here are found some Silver-Mines, many more of Iron, and the best Free-Stone in *France*.

Before the *Romans*, these Countries belong'd to the *Autunois Adui*, whose Territories extend'd from the *Saone* to the *Allier*, and comprehended also the greatest part of *Bourbonnois*. So that *Samson* mistakes, when he pretends that the *Vadicasses* dwelt in *Nivernois*, for they were



were the Inhabitants of *Chalons*, as we shall shew in its due place. Thence it came that during the decay of the *French Monarchy*, *Nivernois* pass'd into the hands of the Dukes of *Burgundy*; the third of whom, call'd *Richard le Justicier*, gave it to one *Ratier* in 890, whose Posterity has kept it till Cardinal *Mazarin* bought it together with the Dutchy of *Rethel* for *Phi'ip Mancini Mazarin*, his Nephew, from *Charles of Gonzague III. Duke of Mantoue, &c.* This County having been, in the mean while, successively enjoy'd by many illustrious Houses, as *Burgundy, Courtenay, France, Flanders, Cleves, Gonzague*, into which the Heiresses of *Nivernois* Married.

*Nevers Noviodunum Aduorum*, lies between the confluence of the *Nieure* and *Ailier*, into the *Loire*, 30 Leagues South-East of *Orleans*, and 10 of *Cosne*. *Cesar* had made it his Store-House, keeping there his Corn and Mony, and the Hories he had bought in *Spain* and *Italy*, but *Eporedorix* and *Virodomarus*, two Commanders *Autunns*, having surpriz'd and kill'd the Garrison, took away the Mony and Horses, and put the Town into Flames. This dependance upon *Autun* is the cause that the Bishoprick is not antient, nor mention'd in any Notices of the *Gauls*, before the VI. or VII. Century. The name of *Nevers Nivernum* is also new, and most probably deriv'd from the Rivulet *Nieure Niveris*. *Gregory of Tours* calls *Nevers Nivernum*, but gives it only the Title of *Oppidum* a Town, so that it seems not to have been a City or Bishop's Seat, in his time, that is in the VI. Age. *Nevers* is a pretty strong place, having no manner



of Suburbs and both the City and Town being included within the Walls, that are defended with many thick and high Towers, and surrounded with deep Motes, fill'd up with Water. The most considerable Buildings are, 1. The Palace of the Dukes, where amongst other Goods is a great Marble-Table, upon which is another of less size, that appears transparent at the light of the Sun or a Candle, and shews most delicate Pictures. 2. The Bridge upon the *Loire*, consisting of twenty Arches, and as many Pillars all of Free-Stone, with a Drawing-Bridge on each side, and Towers to defend them. 3. The Cathedral, dedicated first under the name of *St. Gervais*, and *St. Protais*, and then under the name of *St. Cyr*, hath a Steeple enrich'd on the outward side, with many emboss'd figures of Stone. *Nevers* has besides Eleven Parishes, an Abby of *Augustinian* Monks, another of Nuns, and several Religious Houses. It has a Bayliwick resorting to the Presidial of *St. Pierre le Moustier*, a Chamber of Accounts, and an Election depending on the Generality of *Moulins*.

*Nevers* was Erected into a Peerdom in 1459. by *Charles VII.* which Erection was confirm'd by *Lewis XI.* in 1464. by *Lewis XII.* in 1505, by *Francis I.* in 1521. That King rais'd it to the Dignity of Duchy and Peerdom in 1538. which Cardinal *Mazarin* got ratifi'd by *Lewis XIV.* in 1660. Abundance of Earthen wares, but especially Glass-works are made in this City, because most of the Inhabitants meddle with those Trades, the last being no disparagement to a Gentleman in *France*.

*Decize,*



*Decize, Decetia*, lies in a rocky and rugged Island of the River *Loire*, where it receives the *Airon*, seven Leagues South-East of *Nevers*, and is the Capital of the Country of *Bazois*. That learned Lawyer and Antiquary *Gui Coquille*, who flourish'd from the middle of the last Age to the beginning of this, was a Native of this Town. He pretends, in the History of *Nivernois*, that this Island was cut off from the Continent, and call'd *Decize* from *Decisus*: But *Æthicus* in his *Itinerary* calls it *Dececia*, that seems to be its antient name, and *Decize* a corruption of it. Whatever be of that, *Decize* is a Town of some Antiquity, as appears by the Roman Medals that have been found here. It has a Bridge on the *Loire*, being an important passage of that River, and therefore fortify'd with a Castle, lying on a Hill, with part of the Town surrounded with old Walls.

*La Charite, Caritas*, six Leagues North-West of *Nevers*, is also situated on the *Loire*, on the same side of this City and *Decize*, that is looking towards the North-East, with two Bridges on that River, one of Stone, and the other of Wood. It has a Hall, or cover'd Market-place of an extraordinary length; several Churches, and one of the chief Priories of the Abby of *Cluny*, call'd *St Marie de la Charite*. This Monastery gave name and rise to the Town, which depends for the Spiritual on the Bishop of *Auxerre*, and resorts for the Temporal to the Bailiwick of *Nevers*, and the Election of *Gien*. It suffer'd much during the Wars with the English, and the Civil Wars for Religion, but especially in 1569, when it was taken and plunder'd



der'd by the German Auxiliary Forces of William Duke of Deux-ponts.

*Pougues* is but a Village near the *Loire*, three Miles North of *Nevers*, and nine South of *La Charite*, on the same side of that River; but is extremely famous for its Mineral Waters, said to be a specifick remedy against *Hydropisie*. They consist in two Fountains, that are but at a Foot distance from one another; and yet there is observ'd some difference in the taste. The Inhabitants use them for common drink, and testifie that they are more strengthening than ordinary Spring-water.

*St. Pierre le Moutier*, *Monasterium St. Petri*, lies in the Country between the *Allier* and *Loire*, five Leagues North of *Nevers*. It has been divided from the Jurisdiction of *Nevers*, and made a Bailiwick, Presidial and Provostship, to which the Towns of *Donzi*, *Szincoins*, *Cusser* and *Bourg-St. Etienne*, are resorting.

*Donzi*, *Donziacum*, four Leagues North, North-East of *La Charite*, lies upon the little River *Nozain*, which discharges it self into the *Loire* at *Cosne*. It has the Title of a Dutchy, and is the head of a small Country call'd *le Donziois*, *Pagus Donziacensis*, which has besides *Antrain*, *Dreux*, &c.

*Clamecy*, *Climiciacum*, or *Clamiceium*, lies almost six Leagues East of *Donzi*, upon the River *Yonne*, that receives here three other Rivulets, which begin to render it navigable.

*Clamecy* is the Seat of an Election under the Generallty of *Orleans*, to which resort *Dorney*, or *Dominey*, *Domitiacum*, *Cunfy*, *Metz le Comte*, *Tannay*, *Anant*, *Champlemy* and *Varzy*.  
After



After the Expulsion of the Christians out of the H. Land, *Rainold* Bishop of *Bethlehem*, follow'd into *France*, *Gui* Count of *Nevers*, in 1223. who gave him the Government of an Hospital here; and that he might still keep a shadow of his former Dignity, this Hospital was erected into a Bishoprick, and call'd *Bethlehem*, but no Territory annex'd to it. However these Titular Prelates have had Successors hitherto. All the Northern part of *Nivernois*. from *La Charite* to this Town, is of the Diocess of *Auxerre*.

*Vezelay, Viceliacum*, upon the River *Cure*, *Chora*, five Leagues East of *Clamecy*, has an Election, and an antient Abby of *Benedictins*, founded by *Gerard* Count of *Nevers*, under the French King, and Emperor *Charles the Bald*. It's now a Collegiate Church of Prebendaries, under the Title of *St. Mary Magdalene*, resorting to the Bishoprick of *Autun*, as does all the Valley of *Tonne*, and the Country of *Morvan*. In 1145. Pope *Eugenius III.* celebrated a Council here in presence of the Fr. K. *Lewis VII.*

*Morvant*, or rather *Morvan*, *Morvinus Pagus*, reaches from thence to the Source of the *Tonne*, or very near it. It's a wild, Wooddy and Mountanous Country, into which *Heptadius* a holy Priest fled, to avoid his being made Bishop of *Auxerre*. It has its name from a Village that is no more extant, viz. *Moruin*, mention'd by the antient Historians of the French. However there are yet other places of some Note, as *Champagne*, *Campaniacum*, *Cussi*, *Cussiacum*, *Cervon* *Cerv-do*, *L' Orme*, *Corbigny*--*S. Leonard*  
*Corbiniacum*,



*Corbiniacum, Aureux, Chasteau-Chinon, Castrum Caninum.* This last is a Lordship surrounded with pleasant Forests, and seems to have gotten that name from the Grey-hounds, or Hunting-Dogs, which the Counts of Nevers kept here. The chief Trade of the Country consists in Wood, that is carry'd on the *Yonne*, and the *Seine* down to *Paris*.

*Arquien* and *Langeron*, are two Marquisates on the two extremities of *Nivernois*, *Arquien* on the North-East, near the River *Cure*, and *Langeron* on the South-West near the *Allier*. *La Ferté Chauderon*, two Leagues South-East of *Langeron*, has the Title of a Barony, whose Lord entitles himself Marshal and Seneschal of *Nivernois*, and pretends to the right of Coining Money. At *La Roche-Milet* another Barony, 15 Leagues Eastwards, are considerable Fairs. *Montenoison*, which gives name to a Valley, has a strong Castle built on a Mountain, almost in the middle of this Dutchy. The other places are *Luzy*, *Cercy-la-Tour*, *Molins-Engilbert*, *Aprey*, *Chatillon-en-Bazois*, *S. Sauge*, *Premery*, *Champ-Allemand*, &c.



## CHAP. XI.

*Of Orleanois on the South of the Loire.*

*Of Berry.*

**B**ERRY has *Sologne* on the North, from which it is separated by the *Fuzou*, on the East the *Loire* and the *Allier* divide it from *Puisie*, *Nivernois* and *Bourbonnois*. It confines *La-Marche* on the South, and *Poitou* and *Touraine* on the West. Its modern name has still some affinity with the Latin *Bituriges*, by which the Roman Historians call the *Berru-ers*, the Inhabitants of this Country, who were once Masters of all Celtick Gaul. It was so at least, in the time of *Tarquin* the ancient King of Rome. For *Ambigat* King of the *Celtes*, either to extend his Dominions, or to discharge his Realm of the multitude of People it was crowded with, resolv'd to make two Plantations under the Conduct of two Sons of his, *Se-govese*



goveſe and Belloveſe. The former lead his Colony through the *Hercynian*, now the *Black Forreſt*, into *Germany*, where they ſettled themſelves, partly in *Bohemia*, partly on the *Danube*, and partly in *Frieſland* and *Weſtphaly*: Theſe laſt were the Anceſtors of the *Franks* or *French*, who, a thouſand years after, paſſ'd the *Rhine* under *Pharamond* and *Clodion*, and began to conquer the *Gauls*, their antient habitation. As to *Belloveſe*, he took his Way through *Dauphine*, *Savoy*, and the *Alps*, followed by vaſt numbers of *Berruyers*, *Auvergnats*, *Senonois*, *Autunois*, *Chartrains*, *Manſeaux*, &c. who conquer'd the Northern Part of *Italy*, and gave it the name of *Ciſalpine Gaul*. It's the ſame that was ſince call'd *Lombardy*, and comprehends *Piedmont*, the *Dutchy of Milan*, the *States of Genoa*, *Mantua*, and part of the *Dominions of Venice*, and of *Tuſcany*.

I know not whether theſe Colonies weak'ning the *Berruyers*, caus'd the ruine of their Empire; but in *Cæſar's* time they were no longer their own Maſters, being under the protection, or rather dependance of the *Autunois*. However, they were ſtill ſo powerful, as to have above twenty good Towns in their Country, which they all burnt except the Capital, to ſaſh the *Roman Army*, tho' this hinder'd not their being ſubdu'd by this great General. In the *Division of Auguſtus Berry*, was made a part of *Aquitain*, and continu'd ſo under the *French*. During the weakneſs of *Charlemaigne's* Succeſſors, the *Governors* of this Province made themſelves Sovereigns, and had the Title of *Counts of Bourges*, till *Harpin*, undertaking a



Journey into the Holy Land, sold his Estate to the French King Philip I. for sixty thousand golden Pence. This Lord turning a Monk at his return, this County was united to the Crown, till the year 1360, that the French King John erected it into a Duchy and Peerdom for his youngest Son John, who dying without Male Issue, Berry return'd to the Crown. King Charles VI. gave it in portion to his fifth Son Charles, since the VII. of that name, King of France, and because, during the Wars with the English, this Province stood firm to his Int'rest, his Enemies call'd him contemptuously, King of Bourges. Since that time, Berry has often been the portion of youngest Sons, Daughters, and Queen Dowagers of France.

This Province is about 28 Leagues North and South, and as many East and West, being divided into two Parts, almost equal by the Cher, and water'd by a vast number of other Rivers, which make this Country very pleasant and fertile in all the necessary Conveniencies of Life. It especially abounds in Corn, and the Pasture-Ground is so excellent, that the Wooll and Cloth of Berry out-do all the others in France. The Name of Berry is derived from a Latin word us'd in the decay of that Tongue, *Biturium*. More antient Authors call the Berryers *Bituriges Cubi*, to distinguish them from the Inhabitants of Bourdeaux *Bituriges Virosci*, who seem to be a Colony of the former.

Bourges, *Avaricum Biturigum*, and in latter Ages *Bituriga*, *Biturica*, & *Betorica*, lies 18 Leagues South South-East of Orleans, upon the River



River *Eure*, or *Yeure*, *Avara*, or *Avera*, whence the Latin Name of this City *Avaricum* seems to come. It's seated in a Soil fertile in Fruits and Wine, that is not so delicate, but more healthful than that of *Orleans*. The River *Eure* divides it self into three Branches, one of which serves to cleanse the Town, and withal to Dyers, Tanners, and the like; the other refreshes the Ditches that surround the Walls, and the third runs along the Suburb of *St. Peter*. These three Branches being joined, and the *Eure* increased with the Waters of the *Oron*, *Urio*; the *Aurette*, *Avara Minor*, and the *Moulon*, *Mola*, near the Monastery of *St. Sulpice*, this River begins to be Navigable.

The Situation of *Bourges* is not only convenient, but also very strong; for besides these Rivers and Ditches, it is defended by broad and deep Marshes, surrounded with good Walls, fortified with eighty Towers; so that three Camps would needs be required to besiege it on all sides; as one at *Bourbon's Gate*, the other at *Oron's Gate*, and the other at the Gate of *St. Privat*. *Cesar* observes that he could not shut it up with Trenches, and laid siege to it only on that side that was between the River and the Marsh. Nevertheless, he took it partly by Storm, and partly by Stratagem, having raised two high Towers, whence his Soldiers leaped on the Wall, which so frightened the Garison and Inhabitants, that they retir'd to the great Market, and thence endeavoured to make their escape thorough the Gates; but the Romans having master'd them, spar'd neither Sex nor Age; they were so incens'd at the Murther of their Fellow Soldiers



in *Glen*. This was the Cause, that of 40000 People that were in this City, 800 hardly could save their Lives, by retiring into the Army of *Vercingentorix*, General of the *Gauls*.

In the V. Century, *Bourges* was taken from the *Romans* by the *Visigots*, and from them by *Clodius*, and made part of the Kingdom of *Orleans* under *Clodomir*, and of that of *Burgundy* under *Contran* his Nephews. *Desiderius*, or *Didier*, General of *Chilperic* the first King of *Paris* or *France*, took it from the last in 583, and burnt it almost intirely; *Charlemaign* repair'd it, and *Phillip August* fortified and adorn'd it with a Castle, call'd the *Great Tower*, which was almost quite ruined in 1651. It was cut Diamondwise on the outside, and rais'd so high, that from the top, the Country might be viewed four Leagues round about. There has been seen a long time a Wood or Iron-Cage, where the jealous King *Charles* the VIII. kept *Lewis* of *Orleans* Prisoner, who, nevertheless succeeded him. In 1412, the Duke of *Burgundy* brought the French King, *Charles* the VI. before *Bourges*, whither the Duke of *Orleans*, and his Confederates had retir'd, and laid siege to it with an Army of 100000 Men, but in vain; for at last both Parties were glad to accept of the Mediation of the Duke of *Guyenn*, then Dauphin of *France*. In 1562, The Count of *Montgimery*, Commander of the *Protestants* under the Prince of *Conde*, seiz'd on this Town May 27; but left Governour therein one *Yvoy*, a Man of no great Courage and Trust, who surrendered it the same Year to the Duke of *Guise*; and therefore it remained in the Power of the Leaguers, till



till 1594, that it was reduced by the French King, *Henry the IV.*

Notwithstanding these various Changes, *Bourges* is still a considerable City, being of an Oval Figure, with seven Gates, and as many Suburbs. Its Walls seem to be a *Roman* Work, being still almost intire, and so strongly built, that it requires a great deal of Labour, to pluck some few Stones out of them. It has seventeen Parochial, and seven Collegiate Churches, three Abbies, a College of Jesuites, and a vast number of Monasteries, besides the Cathedral of *St. Stephen*, said to be built in 254, and the *St. Chappel*, founded by *John Duke of Berry*, Brother to the French King, *Charles the V.* and therefore depending immediately on the See of *Rome*. That Duke was buried there in 1417, and there is still his Crown, with several Vessels of Gold and Silver curiously wrought. There are likewise shewn the pretended Bones of a certain Giant call'd *Briat*, said to have been 15 Cubits high. The *Romans* had here a Pallace, which *K. Pepin* repair'd, and called there an Assembly of his Barons in 767; but I know not whether it be the same which the Dukes of *Berry* made afterward use of, and is now the Seat of the Presidial. Besides the Bailiwick *Bourges* has a Generality, to which the Elections of *Chateau-Roux*, and *la Chastre* in *Berry*, and *St. Amant* in *Bourbonnois* are resorting; as also a Chamber of Acompts for all the Lands depending on this Dutchy, erected by the said Duke in 1379. Its University is famous for the Civil and Canon Law; the best Lawyers in *France* having taught here in the last Age,



and the beginning of this; such as *Alciat*, *Baro Duarenius*, *Baldwin*, *Conti*, *Hottoman*, *Cujas*, &c. It was founded by the French King, *Lewis* the IX, re-established by *Charles* Duke of Berry, Brother to *Lewis* the XI. and endow'd with many Priviledges by Pope *Paul* II. in 1464.

But now I am speaking of Priviledges, I must not forget four very rare and considerable Prerogatives, granted by the French King to the Inhabitants of *Bourges*, perhaps in reward of their Fidelity to *Charles* the VII. \*

1. Their Goods cannot be confiscated. 2. They are free from Garisons and Winter Quarters. 3. Those that possess Lordships or noble Manors, are not subject to the Duty of *Ban* and *Arreerban*. 4. Those that buy or inherit them pay nothing to the King. The City is govern'd by a Mayor and Sheriffs, who take care of it in time of Peace and War, and judge in first instance of the differences between the Citizens, which may be brought by Appeal only before the Parliament of *Paris*; but the Suits of the Country People resort to the Presidial, as well as the Appeals from the Royal Seats of *Issoudun*, *Dun-le-Roy*, *Meun sur Teure*, *Concreffant*, *Sancerre*, &c.

Amongst the Buildings of *Bourges* the Town-House, and the House of *Jaques Cœur* are worthy to be seen. This Man was Treasurer to *Charles* the VII. and one of the first that ventured to send Merchant Ships into the East. By that unknown Trade, he gather'd in a short time such vast Sums of Mony, that he bought the Lordships of *St. Fergeau*, *Meneton*, *Boisi*, *S. Gerande Vaux*, *la alipffe*, &c. and built a most sumptuous

\* *Du Chesne.*



sumptuous Palace, that is yet partly subsisting, in which are said to be as many Windows, as there are Days in the Year, besides other publick Buildings, and whole Streets, wherewith he adorn'd this City. But his great Riches prov'd his Ruin; for the envious Courtiers took thence occasion to accuse him of keeping unlawful Correspondences with the *Turks*, of sending them Arms, Weapons and Amunitions; and even Smiths and Gunners, to smelt, melt and point them after the Christian manner; Of discovering the Secrets of the State, making away the King's Money, and drawing unlawful Taxes from *Languedoc*; for which true or pretended Crimes, he was put close Prisoner, condemned to excessive Fines, and then banish'd for ever from *France*.

As to the Ecclesiastical State, Christianity, together with Episcopacy was as it's said, planted here by one *Ursinus*, Disciple to the Apostles, who was the first Prelate of it, in the second Century. And as by the Division of the Emperours, *August* and *Constantine*, *Aquitain* became the fourth Part of the *Gauls*, and was subdivided into three other Provinces; the First, the Second, and the Third *Aquitain*; *Bourges* being the Capital of all, its Bishop took the Title of Patriarch or Primate of *Aquitain*, and had the Precedency of the Metropolitans of *Bordeaux*, *Narbonne*, and *Auch*. This Honour having been conferr'd, or confirmed to him by *Charlemain*, who erected *Aquitain* into a particular Kingdom, he enjoy'd it undisturbed till the Duchy of *Guyenn*, and the Estates of the Counts of *Toulouse* were



torn off from the Kingdom of *France*; for then the Arch-Bishops of *Bordeaux*, *Narbonne* and *Auch*, endeavoured to free themselves from their subordination to the Primate of *Bourges*, as their Masters had done from their Subjection to the *French Kings*. Divers National Councils were kept upon this account; but the Arch-Bishops of *Bordeaux* maintained by the Kings of *England*, would never yield. The most famous Assembly of Prelates, that was ever call'd to *Bourges* was in 1438, where the *French Clergy* acknowledged the Council of *Basil*; and approved of the *Pragmatique Sanction*, as did also the Parliament of *Paris* in 1459. This Constitution first drawn up by *Lewis the IX*, corrected and enlarged by the Council of *Basil*, consisted of 23 Statutes, of which 21 had been ratified by Pope *Eugenius IV*. Their Principal aim was; 1. To cause the Elected Bishops to be acknowledged for such before, or without their going to *Rome*. 2. To make the Elections of Bishops, Abbots, &c. free and independant from either King or Pope. 3. To prefer the Authority of a General Council before that of the Pope. 4. To abolish expectative Graces, so that the Pope might not give the Survivance of a Living to any of his Favourites. *Eugenius* repented soon after to have yielded so much, broke with the Council of *Basil*, and sent Ambassadors to the *French King*, *Charles the VII*. to hinder the Reception of the *Pragmatique*, but all in vain; for it subsisted till 1516. that it was suppressed by an Agreement between *Francis I*. and *Leo X*. call'd the *Concordat*; the *French King* allowing the Pope to in-

slave



have his Clergy again, that he might abolish the free Elections and Name to the great Livings.

The Diocess of *Bourges* contains 900 Parishes under 12 Arch-Deacons, and 20 Arch-Priests, besides 34 Collegiate Churches, and 35 Abbies. Before the Year 1676. it had Eleven Suffragans; but *Albi* that was then Erected into a Metropolitan took away five with it self, so that *Bourges* had but five left, viz. *Clermons*, *Let*, *St. Flour*, *Tulles* and *Limoges*. Just now I hear that the H. Chappel, and many Houses was burnt down, July 1693.

*Sancerre* lies 8 Leagues North-East of *Bourges*, upon a Mountain wash'd by the River *Loire*. The Latin Name of this Town is a proof of its Antiquity; for Authors call it either *Sacrum Ceresis*, because in the Time of Heathenism, *Ceres* the Goddess of Corn was ador'd there; Or *Sacrum Cesaris*, because *Cesar* sacrific'd in this Place, after his Victory over the *Berruyers*. Others pretend that this great General built here a Fort, to keep in the Statues or Images of his *Lares* or Hous-Gods; but this has little probability, since the *Romans* did not use to carry their domestick Gods with them in their Armies; besides that, considering the swiftness of *Cesar's* Conquest, 'tis most likely he did not lose Time in building Fortresses. Another mark of the Antiquity of *Sancerre* is its Title of County, which it got by being given in Portion to a youngest Son of the House of *Champaign*. *Stephen*, Brother to *Thibauld*, or *Theobald* the Great, under the Reign of *Lewis* the IX. *Stephen's* Posterity enjoy'd it to the Year 1431. that it passed to the House of *Du Buell*. During that time, the Counts of *Sancerre* were famous,  
and



and their Family produc'd many brave Men ; as amongst others *Lewis of Sancerre*, High-Constable of *France* in 1397. The Neighbourhood of *Orleans* made this Town take part with the Dukes of that Name, during their Quarrels against the *Burgundians*, who for this reason besieg'd it. In the last Century, *Sancerre* held for the Protestants, and was twice attempted in vain by the Roman Catholick Commanders, viz. in 1568 and 1572, at which time he serv'd as a place of Refuge to those Inhabitants of *Orleans* and *Bourges*, that could escape the barbarous Murther of *St. Bartholomew* ; but the following Year, it was taken by Famine, after a Siege of 8 Months. This County has 21 Chastelnies, and 500 Parishes depending on it.

*Issoudun*, *Ussellodunum*, or *Exoldunum*, lies on the small River *Thiol*, seven Leagues West of *Bourges*. Its Gaulish termination intimates that it is an antient Town ; and *Du Chesne* confidently relates it was one of the 20, which the Gauls themselves put to Ashes to starve *Cesar's* Army. What authority he has for this, I know not ; but 'tis more certain that *Issoudun* was already a strong Place, under the French King, *Philip August* ; and of such consideration, that *Hugh of Die*, the Pope's Legate, call'd a Synod thither in 1081. It's now a pretty large Town, the Second in this Province, surrounded with Walls, Ditches and Suburbs ; defended with a Castle, and a great Tower, having several Parochial and Collegiate Churches and Monasteries ; a Seat of Regal Justice, or an inferior Balliwick, resorting to the Presidial of *Bourges* ; together



together with many Chastelnies and Baronies its dependances. Besides that, the Wines of its Territory are said to be of good keeping, and its Trade of Wooll is considerable.

*Dun le Roy, Regia-Dunum, or Dunum Regis*, is accounted the third Town of Berry, because of its Seat of Regal Justice. It lies 6 Leagues South South-East of Bourges, on the River Oron, or Auron, *Utrio*. It has had particular Lords of the Family of *Astier*, but was re-united to the French Crown in 1430. under *Charles the VII.* and 1465. under *Lewis the XI.*

*Chasteau Neuf*, upon the *Cher*, 6 Leagues South of Bourges, is a good Borrough and Castle. *Chasteau Melan, Castrum Meliand*, is six Leagues more to the South, near the River *Indre*. It was formerly a wall'd Town, but is now only a simple Borough, though the Castle is yet Wall'd, and has had a Tower, said to be built by the Romans. *La Chastre, Castra* is two Leagues Westwards on the River *Indre*, a little Town, but well fortified with Walls and Ditches, and defended with a good Castle. Its Church of *St. Germain* is together Parochial and Collegiate, being serv'd with Canons, founded by the Lords of *Chavigny*.

*Chateau-Roux* lies on the same River, ten Leagues West South-west of Bourges. The beginning of this Town was a Castle, built in 952, by one *Radulphus Largus, Raoul the large*, or the Liberal, second Lord of *Deolz*, who presented with it the Monks of the Abby of *St. Gildas*. The Latin Authors call it *Castrum Radulfi*, and therefore it had ought to be nam'd in French *Chasteau-Raoul*, or *Chasteau-Roul*, and not *Chasteau Roux*, which signifies *Castrum Rufum*,



*Rufum.* This Town is pretty large, having 4 Parishes, a Collegiate Church, a fine Castle, and a Park belonging to the Prince of Conde, who is Lord of it; for it was erected into a Dutchy and Peerdom in 1616, by Lewis XIII. Here was born Odo, or Eudes of Chasteau-Roux, who became Cardinal, and made a great figure under the Reign of Lewis the IX.

*Bourg-de-Deolz*, or *Bourg-Dieux*, *Dolensis Vicus* is also seated on the *Indre*, over against *Chasteau-Roux*. Its Territory is extraordinary fruitful in Wine and Wooll, because of the goodness of its Pasture-Ground; besides, that it reaches twenty Leagues in Circuit, and has above 1200 Fees, or Rear-fees depending on it; for which Reason *Charles* the IX. erected it into a County for the Baron of *Aumont*, Knight of his Order. Moreover *Deolz* is remarkable for an Abby of *Benedictins*, founded by *Ebo*, or *Abo*, a mighty Prince or Lord in Berry, Father to the forementioned *Raoul*; and for a Victory, which the *Goths* got from *Riorhinus*, King of the *Armorican Britains*.

*Vierzon*, seven Leagues North-West of *Bourges*, on the confluence of the River *Eure* and *Cher*. It's call'd in Latin *Virfio*, and seated in a very fruitful Soil, amongst Rivers, Vines, green Fields and Meadows, as it is expressed in this Monkish distich.

*Virfio Villa vivens, aliunde pauca requirens;  
Vitibus ornata, pratis, campis decorata.*

It was taken, and burnt by the English in 1197. *Wirtzburg* a City of Francony, is call'd  
in



in Latin *Herbipolis*, or the *Green Town*, from its Situation. Some derive the Name of *Vierzon* from the same Original, and take it for a *Franco-German Colony*.

*Selles*, or rather *Celles*, *Cellasti Euficii*, lies 14 Leagues West North-West of *Bourges*, and 15 South-West of *Orleans*. It's grown to an indifferent good Town, from an Anchorer's Seat: For *Euficius* was an *Hermit*, who lived at the beginning of the 6th Century under the French King *Childebert the I.* and had sometimes the boldness to wait upon, and advise this Prince.

*St. Aignan* upon the same River, 3 Leagues West of *Celles*, has the Title of a *Dutchy*, and bears the Name of *St. Aignan*, Bishop of *Orleans*, who is worshipped there, and for whom it has lost its antient Name of *Chasteau Hagar*.

*Meun Sur Yeure*, *Mediolanum*, or *Magdunum*, midway betwixt *Bourges* and *Vierzon*, has an inferior *Bailiwick*, and a *Collegiate Church* under the Title of our Lady. It belong'd formerly to Count *Robert of Artois*, and the Ruins of an old Castle testify, that it was taken and demolished by the *English*.

*Aubigny*, *Albinicum*, lies upon the River *Nerre*, nine Leagues North of *Bourges*. It belong'd once to the *Canons* of *St. Gratian's* of *Tours*, from whom *John Duke of Berry* redeemed it. *Lewis XI.* placed here a *Royal Seat of Justice*; but *Charles the VIII.* transfer'd it to *Concreffaut*, *Concurreallum*, or *Concorcellum* (and not *Concordia Saltus*, as *Du Chesne* feigns) having given *Aubigny* to *Berault Steward*, Capt. of his Guards, whose Issue took their Surname from



from thence. As to *Concreffant*, it lies on the River *Sandre*, four Leagues East of *Aubigny*, and is only a Burrough, but fortified and adorn'd with a very fine Castle.

*Henrichemont*, and *Bois-Belle*, *Boscabellum*, are two adjacent Places, situated betwixt two Forrests, near the Source of the *Sandre*, six Leagues North-East of *Bourges*. The last has a very fine Castle, and the Title of a Principality belonging to the House of *Bethune-Sulli*. Its Name compos'd of *Henri-Richmont*, seems to intimate an English Foundation.

*Neuvi* on the River *Baranion*, is but an inconsiderable Village: However it seems to be the *Noviodunum*, mention'd by *Cesar*, *Lib. 7.* rather than *Neuvy* upon the *Loire*, since the former is in the right way from *Avaricum* *Bourges*, to *Genabum* *Orleans*.

*Argenton*, *Argentomagus*, is a Town and Chastelny upon the River *Creuse*, 16 Leagues South-East of *Bourges*. It has a Castle fortified with ten Towers, upon one of which call'd the Tower of *Heraclius*, are Ingraven these two words, *Veni vici*, with such uncounterfeit Vestiges of Antiquity, and Ruins of old Buildings, that it cannot be doubted but that it's a Roman Work. Besides, that one *Heraclius* was Governour there under the Empire of *Decius*, and is said to have put to Death the 2 Martyrs *St. Marcel*, and *St. Anastase*, in the inclos'd Yard, that bears yet the Name of the latter Saint.

The other Places of Note in this Province are *Monasteriolum ad Carem* *Meneton* *Sur Cher*; *Craxacum* *Grucay*, renown'd for its Manufacto-



ry of Cloaths; *Levroux Leprosium*, so call'd from the Leprousfness to which this place was once-obnoxious: Wherefore it was commend-  
ed to the Patronage of *St. Silvain Blanc-en Berri Oblincum*, an indifferent good Town, on the Borders of *Touraine* and *Poitou*. *Buzancais*, *Bosentiaca*, or *Busentiacum*. *Ruffiniacum Castellum*, *Ruffec le Chateau*. *Castelto ad Angerim*, *Chastillon Sur Indre-Igorandis*, *Aigurande*. *Mont-faucon*, *Monsfalconis*, towards *Nivernois*, has one of the finest Ponds in the Country. *Nancey*, *Pelluan*, *Charrox Corrocium*, have the Title of Counties. *Ligneres*, *Lineria*, and *St. Severe* are Baronies, *Valansay*, *Vatan*, *Vastinum*, & *Culant*, *Cullencum*, are considerable Lordships. *La Cheze-al-Benoit*, is an Abby, the chief of *St. Bener's Order*.

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of



## Of Poictou.

**T**His Province is the biggest of those that are comprehended in the Government *Orleanois*; for it reaches 48 Leagues East and West from *Port de Piles* in *Tourain* to the Isle of *Nermoutier*, and 20 North and South from *Loudun* to *Aunay*, or 26 from *Champigni* on the *Vienne*, to *Marsillai* on the *Charante*, and the Borders of *Angoumois*. It's included betwixt *Britany*, *Anjou* and *Tourain* on the North. *Berri* and *La Marche* on the East, *Angoumois*, *Saintonge*, and *Aunis* on the South, and the Sea on the West. It's divided into upper and lower, the latter extending along the Ocean from *Fontenay le Comte* to *Mortaigne*, and the former taking up the rest of the Province. The whole Country is fruitful in Corn, Wine and Pasture-Grounds, and feeds great numbers of Sheep, and Herds of Cattle; besides, that there is good Fishing on the Sea-Coast, and a vast quantity of Game in the Forrests and Warrens.

The Inhabitants of *POICTOU* are mentioned by *Cesar*, *Strabo*, *Ptolmy*, and other ancient Geographers under the Name of *Poictones*. But there is little appearance they should have gotten that Name from a *Scythian* Nation, call'd properly *Agathyrses*, and surnam'd *Picti*, because they used to Paint their Hair and Faces,

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The swiftness of *Cesar's* Conquests in the *Gauls* will not surprise those who shall consider the Constitution of that Country, separated into a vast number of petty States, independent from one another. That Great Captain us'd the methods that have ever prov'd so successful to Conquerors, to sow dissension among their Enemies, make Alliances with some, profer Neutrality to others, and use the Forces of the vanquished to subdue the unconquered. Thus *Cesar* having submitted the Inhabitants of the Country of *POICTOU* and *Saintonge*, imbark'd his Troops in their Vessels to Land Men into the Country of *Vermes*, and by those means subdued the most potent Nation that liv'd on the Sea-Coast of *Gaul*. Neither could the League which *Vercingetorix*, a young Gentleman of *Auvergne*, endeavour'd to make among several Nations of the *Celtick Gaul*, restore their broken Power. The Quota  
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of the *Pictones* came then to 8000 Men, which shews how considerable they were in those days. Notwithstanding *Alesia*, whose relief was intended by this League, was taken and destroyed by the Romans; the *Pictones* with all their Confederates, being likewise subdu'd. Ever since the *Pictones* remained under the Romans, and not long after the Emperour *Claudius*, going over into *England*, was accompanied with the Flower of their Nobility, whom at his Return, he allow'd to rebuild their Capital City, in Recompence of their good Services. But in 410, the *Vandals* plundered and destroyed it in part, and two Years after, it fell with all *P O I C T O U*, *Guienn* and *Languedoc*, in the Power of the *Wifigoths*, who maintained themselves in the Possession of all those Provinces 84 Years, under six Kings, that is, till 509; that *Clovis*, King of the *French*, won the Battel of *Civaux*, near *Bonitiers*, kill'd *Alaric*, King of the *Wifigoths*, and drove them out of *P O I C T O U*, and a great part of *Guienn* and *Languedoc*.

Under the *French* King, and Emperour *Charles* the Bald, this Province began to have Counts of its own, who in process of Time became Dukes of *Guienn*. *William* the X. the last of them, Married *Alienor*, his only Daughter and Heires to the *French* King, *Lewis* the VII. but the crafty Policy of the Popes procuring a Divorce betwixt them, this rich Princess spous'd *Henri Plantagenet*, afterwards King of *England*, which was the Source of continual Wars betwixt the two Kingdoms, during two or three Centuries.



*Pictones* is the true Latin Name of the Inhabitants; that has been since corrupted into *Pictavi*, *Pictavenses* and *Pictavini*, whence comes the French *Poitvins*, and likewise the Name of *Petaux*, given to some part of the French Foot, by *Froissard* and *Thibaud de Maroilles*, as most probably the Name of *Bidaux*, in the same Historians, signifies the Foot-Soldiers levied in the Province of *Berny*, *Biturigas*.

As there are great Numbers of Gentry in this Province, and the Inhabitants of Towns are well bred, and live at Ease; the Reformation made great progresses in *POICTOU*, and was oft therefore the Seat of War in the last Age. But nothing can be compar'd to the Cruelties, which the *Intendant of Morille* and his Officers exercised upon the Protestants of this Province, in the Years 1680, and 1681, by *Lewis* the XIV's Order. The waste of their Goods, and the plunder of their Houses were tolerable Vexations, in comparison of the Racks and Tortures, which they put those poor Men upon, without any other Cause, than that they were pretended Hereticks. The Reader may consult two Books, *Estat des Religions en France*, Par. 1. Chap. 8, to 14, but especially Pag. 141, 142. and *Les derniers efforts de l'innocence affligée*, Pag. 82, 123.

Besides the general Division of *POICTOU* into Upper and Lower, it is subdivided into ten smaller Counties; as *le Chastellain*, *le Loudunois*, *le Marais*, *le Tourcois*, *la Gâtine*, *Arbauges*, *le Lussonois*, *le Niostain*, *le Manger*, and *le Pais de Tiffauges*, which I shall describe under the Towns, whence they have their name.

*Poitiers*,



*Poitiers*, Capital of the whole Province, lies forty Leagues from *Orleans*, and sixty five from *Paris*, to the South East. Its ancient Name is *Augustoritum*, according to *Protony*, who also mentions another City under the name of *Αλμυρον*, *Limonum*, which *Sanson* takes for *Poitiers*; but that ancient Geographer distinguishes them so plainly, that I had rather to confess I know not what place *Limonum* is, than to contradict him. In process of Time *Augustoritum* was call'd *Pictavi*, by the Name of the People of which it was the Head; as *Parisii*, *Remi*, and many other Cities in the *Gauls*, and afterwards *Pictava*, *Pictavum Urbs*, and *Pictavium*. It seems to have formerly stood lower to the North, at a place call'd *le Vieux Poitiers*, not far from *Chastelleraud*; because of the name of old *Poitiers*, and of some Ruins of old Walls, that are yet to be seen there: Unless it were the *Limonum*, whereof I just now spake. For *Poitiers* it self has several other Monuments of Antiquity; as an old demolish'd Castle, thought to be the Palace of the Emperour *Gallienus*; some remains of an Amphitheatre, call'd *les Arenes*, behind the Church of the *Jesuits*, and without the Town, the Ruins of divers *Aqueducts*, which the common People names *les Arceaux de Parigne*, the *Arch*es of *Parigne*.

I have mentioned the several Changes, through which *Poitiers* passed, speaking of *P. O. I. C. T. O. U*, and likewise the Battel of *Ci-gaux*, but I must not forget that famous Victory obtained by our Black Prince, that Martial Son of a Warlike Father, *Edward the III.*

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over the French King John, September 19. 1336. within two Leagues of *Poitiers*. The King having an Army of above 30000 Men, and the Prince hardly 12000; the latter proffered to go back, and to repay all the Damage he had done, from *Bordeaux* thitherto: But the French meaning that a handful of Enemies ought to Surrender at discretion, and could not avoid being cut into pieces, would not hearken to any Proposals; which so exasperated the *English*, that they fought like Lions, gave a total Overthrow to the *French*, and took their King Prisoner.

The Church of *Poitiers* is said to have been founded by St. *Martial*, a Kinsman to the first Christian Martyr St. *Stephen*, and he from whom our Saviour took the five Loaves, and the two Fishes, which his Blessing so miraculously multiplied in the Wilderness. St. *Peter*, add the *Roman* Legendaries, sent him into *Aquitain*, where he converted a great many Heathens, especially in *POICTOU*, and even laid the Foundation of the Cathedral of St. *Peter*, on that very Day that H. Apostle was Martyr'd. What ever be of this (for the Monks have so mixed with Fables the ancient Accounts, that it is a hard matter to distinguish Truth from Falshood) This is more certain, that about the Year 279, *Nectarius*, or *Victorinus*, a learned Man, mentioned by St. *Jerome*, was Bishop of *Poitiers*. He was succeeded by several other great Men, amongst whom *Hilarius*, that famous Defensor of the Orthodox Faith against the *Arians*, was the tenth in Order, under whose Name a Collegiate Church has been since



since built. At the end of the 5th Century that See was fill'd with one of the best Poets of that Age. *Venantius Fortunatus*, who had belong'd to the Household of *Radegund*, Queen of *France*.

This Diocess has been bigger than it's now, and extended through the whole Province of *POICTOU*: For *Lusson* and *Maillexais* have been separated from it, and erected from Monasteries into Bishopricks. However it contains yet 22 Parishes, 21 of which are included in the City, besides 30 Abbies, 25 Chapters of Canons, and a vast number of Religious Houses, the Parishes being under the Inspection of four Arch-Priests.

The Cathedral of *St. Peter* was begun by our King *Henry the II.* and finished 200 Years after. It's a sumptuous Building, all of a hard Square-Stone. In the Church of our Lady, surnam'd the *Great*; the Mayor's Lady uses to offer, every Year, the day after *Easter*, a Cloak of considerable value. On the outside of the Wall, that looks on the great Market, is the Statue of the Emperor *Constantine* on Horse-back, with a Sword in his Hand. The Collegiate Church of *St. Hilary*, immediately subject to the Pope, lies on the upper end of the Town. The French King is Abbot of it, as Count of *Poitiers*. There is shewn a Stone which consumes Dead Bodies, within 24 Hours, together with the Tomb of *Guise*, the Great Tooth, pretended Son to the famous *Melusine* of *Luzignan*, and the hollow Spout of a Tree, where Mad-men are put in, in hopes that they shall recover their Senses; whence comes a saying Proverb amongst them, to send one to *St. Hilary-Cradle*. *Poitiers*



*Poitiers* is the biggest City in France next *Paris*, as to the compass of its Walls, though it be not near so thick Inhabited as *Rouen*, *Toulouse* or *Lyons*, there being a great many Gardens, and even Meadows, Vines, and Corn-fields within its inclosure; for which reason *Charles V.* the Emperour, call'd it a great *Village*. It's built partly in a Plain on the West-side, and partly on a Hill, shut up betwixt the River *Clain*, and another that stagnates there into small Rivulets, Marshes and Ponds; so that it could hardly be taken, were it not that the lower Town is commanded by high Rocks, nam'd by the Inhabitants *Dubes* instea of *Dunes* or *Downs*. The greatest inconveniency of *Poitiers*, is its lack of Water; for there are no Fountains, and very few Cisterns; and therefore the Citizens are forc'd to buy Water, that is carried into the Town, from a Fountain springing near the *Clain*, at a place call'd *Platteforme*.

All the interior Seats of Justice in the Province of *Poitou*, resort to the Presidial and Seneschaship of *Poitiers*, and in 1415, whilst the English were Masters of *Paris*, and *Charles* the VII. Dauphin of *France*, was disputing the Crown against 'em, *Poitiers* had the Honour to be the Seat of a Parliament, which, when the English were expell'd that Kingdom, was restored to *Paris*. The Palace, where the Judges keep their sitting was formerly a Castle, that has still a very fine Hall, whose Wainscotted Ceiling is not underpropt by Pillars.

Next to this Palace is the ancient Tower of *Maubergeron*, built by an Earl of *POICTOU*, wherein the seven Viscounties of this Province are represented.

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Next to the Gate of St. Lazarus was another Castle, built in a Triangular Form, but there are no Remains of it ; besides, the place where it stood, and some strong Towers against the Walls.

*La Pierre Levée, The Stone rais'd up*, is one of the Curiosities of *Poitiers*, which Strangers do not fail to see, it being but a Mile from the City. It's a large Square-stone, 25 Foot in length, 17 in Breadth, and 60 in Circuit, having these two Verses ingraven upon it.

*Hic Lapis ingentem superat gravitate Colossum.  
Ponderis, & grandi sidera mole petit.*

The University of *Poitiers* was founded by *Charles* the VII. in 1431, and has been formerly more famous than it's now, especially for the Civil Law. The Auditory or the Hall wherein the Law is read, is very large and sumptuous, and was built, in the French K. *Henry* the IV's Time, by the Duke of *Sully*, whilst he was Governour of *POICTOU*.

*Poitiers* has likewise a Mint, where Money is Coynd at the Letter *G*, as also an Exchequer, and a Generality, to which nine Elections are resorting, that is, all those of *POICTOU*, except *Loudun* and *Mirebeau*, that depend on the Generality of *Tours*.

As to the Government of the Town, it is in the Hands of a Mayor, twelve Sheriffs or *Eschevins*, twelve sworn Counsellors, besides seventy five Burgesses. The Mayor is not only Lord, but even the first Baron of *POICTOU*, and takes the Title of Captain and Governour of



of *Poitiers* during his Charge, which is but Yearly; for a new one is elected every Year, on *St. Cyprian's Day*, but afterwards, both he and his Posterity are Nobilitated for ever.

In the Briars and Thorns round about this City, are found great numbers of Vipers, that are carried through all Parts of *France*, and even transported into foreign Countries; the Trochique of Viper, made in *Poitiers* it self, is of great renown.

*Dissay*, three Leagues North-East of *Poitiers*, is a small Lordship betwixt the *Clain* and the *Vienne*, where the Bishop of *Poitiers* makes his Residence.

*Bonnivet* with the Title of Marquizate, lies on the other side of the *Clain*, two Leagues North-West of *Dissay*, and almost four North of *Poitiers*. It has a very fine Castle, begun by *William Gouffier*, Admiral of *France*, under *Francis the I.* to whom it gave Name.

*Chastellerand*, *Castellum Herald*, or *Airaldi*, lies fifteen Miles North-East of *Poitiers*. It was formerly a Viscounty, but erected into a Duchy and Peerdom, by *Francis the I.* on behalf of *Francis of Bourbon*, Count of *Montpensier*, in 1514. Some Years after, the French King took it from *Charles of Bourbon*, Brother and Successor to the latter, and Lord High-Constable of *France*, as being forfeited by Rebellion. But *Henry the III.* restor'd it by way of Ingagement to *Francis of Bourbon*, Duke of *Montpensier*, in 1584. *Chastellerand* is pleasantly situated, having a prospect Westwards upon a Royal Warren, and being wash'd with the *River Vienne*, which increased with the *Clain*,  
R. 2 begins



begins here to be navigable. The Town is but meanly built, however renown'd for the good Knives that are made there, tho' much more for its sumptuous Bridge, that has 230 Paces in Length, 86 in Breadth, and stands upon 9 Arches. It was begun by Catherine of Medicis, but finished by the Duke of Sally, Governour of *Poitou* under Henry the IV. A League from this Bridge, a Hind is said to have shewn a Ford to K. Clovis's Army, when he was in pursuit of *Alaric*, King of the *Wisigoths*. In the Ruins of an old Castle, near this Town are found little Stones, which the vulgar call'd *Diamonds of Chastelleraud*; for being cut and polish'd, they look'd almost as well, and glister as much as true Diamonds. The Country depending on the Election, Dutchy and Royal Justice of *Chastelleraud*, is nam'd *Pagus Castro-Heroldensis* *le Chastelleraudis*, and comprehends many Lordships and Villages. The Protestants were Masters of this Town during the Civil Wars, and repuls'd the Duke of *Anjou* attempting to take it by Storm, so that he was forc'd to raise the Siege: Even till of late they had free exercise of their Religion and a considerable Church at *Chastelleraud*.

*Port de Piles*, *Portus Pila*, is an important Passage upon the *Creuse*, near its mixing with the *Vienne*, seven Miles North North-East of *Chastelleraud*. It seems to be a Place of some Antiquity, because 'tis mention'd in the Records of the Counts or Ancient Counts of *Anjou*. Its name is deriv'd from a Pile or Tower of Bricks, that stands there.

Thirteen Miles West of *Port de Piles*, beyond the *Vienne*, six Leagues North-West of *Chastelleraud*.



leraud, and Ten North of *Poitiers*, lies near the Source of the small River *Amable*, the fine Town of *Richelieu*, in the midst of pleasant Plains, abounding in Fruit, Wine, Corn, and Game of all sorts. It bears the name of its founder *Armand du Plessis* Cardinal of *Richelieu*, the famous Minister of State, who under *Louis XIII.* brought France to that point of Grandeur, in which it stands as yet. He built it on the Pattern of *Manheim*, the prettiest Town in Germany, before the Barbarity of *Louis XIV.* buried it in its ruins. Its Figure is Square, having four Markets at the four Corners, and a great one in the Middle, in which stands the Church, that is a very sumptuous Building, adorn'd with many Marble Pillars, enrich'd with a great quantity of Plate, and serv'd by the Fathers of the Oratory. The Streets are spacious, as straight as a Line, and meet all in the five Markets; and the Houses are so well upon the Level, that there is nothing on one side, but has its Parallel on the other: Which together with its Halls, Fountains, Walks and Gardens, its fine Walls and Towers, its great and deep Ditches cover'd with Swans: The Castle of the Duke, that is as regular a Building as any in Europe, its Rooms, Halls, Galleries and other Apartments being beautified with all the Ornaments that Tapisstry, Painting and Statuary can afford, and surrounded with long AHeys, charming Parks, Orchards, Gardens, Plots, Springs and Grotto's: All this, I say, contribute to render *Richelieu* an indifferent strong Place, and one of the finest in France. *Louis XIII.* erected it into a Duchy and Peerdom.



dom for Males and Females, in 1631. established a Seneschalship in it, and gave great Priviledges to its Inhabitants.

*Champigny* upon the same River *Amable*, a League only from its fall into the *Vienne*, and five Miles North of *Richelieu*, had formerly a Castle belonging to the Duke of *Montpensier*, together with a H. Chappel, where in they us'd to be Burie'd; but this Noble Family having exchange'd this Lordship with Cardinal de *Richelieu*, that Castle and Chappel were demolished to Build and Beautify the foremention'd new Town. However *Champigny* is still a good Burrough and has a very fine Park.

*Loudun*, *Laudunum Castrum*, as the ancient Records call it, or *Lodunum*, as 'tis nam'd by *William the Brittain*, lies four Leagues West of *Richelieu*, and eleven North West of *Poitiers*. *Macrinus* and *Sevole de Ste Marthe* make it very ancient, and call it *Juliodunum*, pretending it was Built by *Julius Cesar* or some of his Successors; but there are no footsteps of so great Antiquity. It's an indifferent good Town, with an Election and inferior Bayliwick resorting to the Generality and Presidial of *Tours*, tho' for the Spiritual it depends on the Bishop of *Poitiers*. It has a great Parochial Church under the name of *S. Peter*, a Collegiate Church surnam'd the *H. Cross*, with several Monasteries; amongst others a Convent of *Carmelites*, whether Superstitious People come in Pilgrimage to a Statue, call'd our Lady of Recovery *Nostre-Dame de Retourance*. It was to underprop the decaying repete of this Idol, as well as of the whole trade, that the Monks set

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set up some Nuns to counterfeit those that are Possess'd with the Devil. The cheat was discovered and oppos'd by a Secular Priest, who suffer'd very much for it, but at last it was stopp'd by the Parliament of Paris. The History of this Imposture has been lately Written in French by a very good Pen, and deserves to be read, by such as desire to know the Spirit of the Church of Rome.

Loudun is the head of a small Country called *le Loudunois*, on which many other Boroughs and Villages are depending. William III Duke of Aquitaine gave it to Godfrey Gyse-Gonelle Count of Anjou, to keep it in Fealty of him, under the Reign of Hugh-Caper. The French King Philip August increas'd his Dominions with it, Charles V. separated it from his Domestines, but Lewis XI. reunited it to the French Crown. Henry III. erected the *Loudunois* into a Dutchy, for the sake of a Lady of the House of Rohan, but after her Death the Patent Letters were suppress'd. In 1569. the Protestants were Masters of Loudun, under the conduct of the Prince of Condé. (a) The Duke of Anjou came to besiege it, and did expect no resistance, the Town being not strongly fortify'd. But he was very much surpris'd when he saw the Enemies draw out in Battalia to receive him and the ways so Freez'd that there was no coming at 'em; so that after several Skirmishes, wherein he had still the worst, he was forc'd to retire. The last National Synod of the Reform'd Churches, kept with the leave of the

(a) Du Chesne.



French King, was assembled at Loudun, in 1659. if my memory does not fail me.

*Moncontour* for *Mnt-Contourné*, *Mons Contorius* for *Mons Contornatus*, because 'tis seated upon a round Mountain, that appears as tho' it were turn'd upon the Wheel, is wash'd by the River Dive, which, tho' very small, is not very fordable, It lies 9 Leagues North-west of *Poitiers* and 3 South-west of *Loudun*. It was built by *Fulk III.* surnamed *Nerra*, Consul or Count of *Anjou*, and therefore call'd *Mons Consularis* or *Mons Comitis*. The same Count built also *Mirebeau* *Mirebellum*, 5 Leagues South-East, and *Faye-la-vineuse*, 6 Leagues North-East of *Moncontour*. But this last place is the most considerable, and especially famous for two Battels gotten by *Godfrey Martel*, Son and Successor to the said *Fulk*, one over the *Poitievin*s, in which he took *William* Count of *Poitou* Prisoner, and the other over the *Manseaux*, wherein *Herbert Bacon* Count of *Maine* fell likewise into his hands. In 1569, on Monday October 3. the Protestants under the Admiral of *Coligny* lost also the day, near *Moncontour*, against the Roman Catholics, headed by the Duke of *Anjou*, since *Henry III.* King of *France*. Notwithstanding which, *Charles IX.* was fain to grant an honourable Peace to the Reformed in 1571. The Admiral was so great a Captain, that he had still a great many shifts after his Defeats.

*Luzignan* or *Lesignan*, *Liciniacum Castrum* or *L'cineium*, is an ancient Castle founded by one *Licinus*, upon the small River *Koman* five Leagues South-west of *Poitiers*. It is called corruptively *Liziniacum*, and *Lefinia* by Latin Au-



Authors of the middle Age, because the French use to change *c* in *s*, and to pronounce *s* between two Vowels as a *z*. Thus they have made from *racemus*, *raisin*, *Sarracenus*, *Sarrasin*, *placere*, *plaisir*, &c. One John of Artois, who writ the History of *Luzignan* in 1383. ascribes the Foundation of this Castle and of the Noble Family, to which it gives Name, to a Fairy, call'd *Melusine*, half Woman and half Snake. What has giv'n occasion to this fabulous account is uncertain. *Aimery* of *Luzignan*, King of *Cyprus* and titular King of *Jerusalem*, had a wife and beautiful Daughter, call'd *Melissinde*, marry'd to *Boemond IV.* Prince of *Antioch*: but I cannot tell whether 'tis she whom that romantick Author has taken for the Subject of his Fables. Whatever be of that, the House of *Luzignan* is very illustrious and known in *France* since the Tenth Century, having possess'd there the Counties of *la Marche* and *Angouleme*, till the Year 1203, and reign'd in the Island *Cyprus* from 1192 till 1473. The Castle of *Luzignan* was esteem'd impregnable; however the brave *Teligni* seiz'd on it for the Protestants in 1569. The Duke of *Montpensier* lay four Months before it in 1574, and having taken it at last demolish'd it; so that it is now but an inconsiderable place.

*Melle* or *Melle*, *Merulum Castrum* or *Melle*, is still a Burrough of some consideration, that had formerly the right of coining Money. It lies near the source of a small River that falls into the *Charente*, 12 Leagues from *Poitiers* and 7 from *Lusignan* to the South-west. Some pretend, that the famous *Melusine* got that Name



because she was Lady of *Melle* and *Luzignan*.

*S. Maixant*, *Cellula S. Maxentii* or *S. Maxentii oppidum*, owes its Rise as well as its Name to *Maxentius* a holy Solitary, who retir'd thither in the sixth Century. It's said, that he miraculously preserv'd his Monastery from being plunder'd by King *Clovis's* Soldiers. The famous *S. Leger* Bishop of *Autun*, who was Minister of State under *Clotaire III.* and *Childe-ric II.* had been Abbot of *S. Maixant*. This Town had then two fine Collegiate Churches. The Abby has been repair'd and beautifi'd by the Emperour *Lewis the Meek.* and by *Eubulus* Bishop of *Limoges*. *S. Maixant* is renown'd for the Manufactory and Trade of *Scrags*. It lies on the *Sevre Niortoise*, 7 Leagues West of *Luzignan*, and 12 South-west of *Poitiers*.

*Partenay*, *Partiniacum* or *Pertinaculum*, has the Title of a Barony, and is the Capital of the small Country of *Gastine*, so call'd from the Heaths and Wastes wherewith it is fill'd. It lies 10 Leagues West-north-west of *Poitiers*. About the end of the ninth Century, there was an Assembly call'd, to procure the Peace of the Churches of *Aquitain*, where *William* Count of *Poitou*, the Bishop of *Chartres* and *S. Bernard*, Abbot of *Clairvaux* were present.

*Tonars*, *Toarcis Castrum*, 6 Leagues West of *Loudun* and 15 North-west of *Poitiers*, has the Title of a Duchy and Peerdom erected by *Henry IV.* in 1595. It's an indifferent good Town and of a long standing; since in the eight Century, it was already one of the strongest Places in *Aquitain*. Historians mention the tak-  
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ing of the Castle of *Touars* by King *Pepin* as a very remarkable conquest, for this Fortresse had then its particular Count or Governour, whom *Pepin* carry'd prisoner into *France*. The Country and dependencies of *Touars*, *Ager Toarcensis*, *le Touarsois* had afterwards Viscounts under the Counts of *Poitou* since the Reign of *Raoul* in the X. Century. The'r Estate passed by Marriage first to the House of *Ambaise* and then to the House of *La Trimouille*.

*Niort*, *Nidrtum* seated in a fruitful soyl, on the banks of the River *Sevre*, *Separis*, to which it gives the surname of *Niortoise*, is a considerable Town and accounted the second in upper *Poitou*. It has a Seat of Royal Justice resorting to the Presidial of *Poitiers*, from which it lies 16 Leagues to the South-West, and four from *St. Maixant*. The Country round about call'd *Niortois* breeds the best race of Mules in the whole Kingdom, and the Town is rich and trading, because of its Fairs.

*Maillezais* lies five Leagues West of *Niort* and 20 South-West of *Poitiers*. It's seated on the River *Autise*, *Altisa*, that surrounds it on all sides, for which reason the Latin Chronicles of the French ordinarily call it *Insula Malliacum*. In 1003. under the Reign of King *Robert*. *William V.* Count of *Poitiers*, Son to *William IV.* surnam'd *Fierabras* and Grand-son to *William III.* surnam'd *Tete-d'Etroupe*, founded here an Abby, whether he retir'd. In process of time, this Monastery made this place a Town of some note, so that either for this consideration, or rather to lessen the Jurisdiction of the Prelate of *Poitiers*, Pope *John XXII.* erected *Maillezais*



*lexais* into a Bishoprick in 1317. and Godfrey of *Ponvrelle* the Abbot was the first Bishop of it; but the Seat has been transfer'd to *Rochel* in 1648.

*Lusson*, *Lucio* was another Ancient Monastery of St. Bennet's order, whose Abbot Peter de la *Voirie*, Pope John XXII. rais'd likewise to the Dignity of a Bishop, in 1317. *Lusson* is situated in a Marshy Place, 8 Leagues West of *Maillezais*, and two North of the Sea, whence it draws many conveniencies; so that it belongs to Lower *Poitou*.

*Fontenay-le-Comte*, *Fontenaium*, or rather *Fontanetum Comitis*, is seated upon the *Vendée*, that begins there to be Navigable, and discharges it self into the *Sevre Niortoise* at *Port-Marans*. *Fontenay-le-Comte* is an indifferent good Town and well-Built. It has a Seat of Royal Justice and is accounted the Capital of Lower *Poitou*. *Pluviant*, a Protestant Captain took it in 1568. but having quieted it the next year, the Famous *Francis de la Nue* lay Siege to it in 1570, and had there his left Arm broken. They fitted to him an Arm of Iron at *Rochel*. But as this accident did not abate his Courage, and he still made a shift to keep the Bridle of his Horse, with his artificial Arm, he got from thence the surname of *Bras de Fer*, or Iron Arm. In the mean while the Siege of *Fontenay* went on, and *Soubize*, who succeeded the Wounded *la Nue*, had the honour of taking the Place. This Town is 6 or 7 Leagues distant from the Sea, 16 Leagues East North-East of *Lusson* and four North-West of *Maillezais*.

*La Roche-sur-Ton*, *Rupes ad Tonnem* is a Burrough



Borough with the Title of Principality, seated near the source of the small River *Yon*, twelve Leagues from *Fontenay* and 8 from *Lussan*. *Elizabeth* of *Beauven* Lady of *Champigny* and *la Roche-sur-Yon* brought these two Lordships into the House of *Burbon* by her Marriage with *John II.* Count of *Vendome*, in 1454. Since that time, this Principality has oft been the Portion of Youngest Sons of that Family, as it was in 1684. the title of the second Son to the Prince of *Condé*, whose eldest Brother dying in 1685, he took the name of *Prince de Conti*.

*Tiffauges*, *Taifalia* lies on the South side of the *Sevre Nantaise*, near the borders of *Britany*, 13 Leagues North North-West of *Fontenay-le-Comte*. This place is a Colony of the *Teifali*, a *Scythian* People, who apparently came into the *Gauls* with *Adolph* King of the *Goths*, under the Emper<sup>r</sup> of *Honorius*, or with *Gar* King of the *Alains*, under the Emperor *Valentinian* *Honorius's* successor; and settled themselves in *Poitou* and *Anjou*, along the River *Loire*; But as they were Heathens and addicted to a vice against Nature, they incurr'd the hatred of the Natives, as well as the *Romans* and the *French*, who joyned together, it seems, to exterminate 'em. So that there is no remainder of them; besides the name of this place and the Country about it. *Gregory of Tours*, in the life of the Abbot *Senochus*, says that he was a *Teifalian* by Race, whence it may be inferr'd, that in process of time, the remaining *Teifalians* imbrac'd Christianity and were confounded with the Natives.

*Talmont*



*Talmond* or *Talemond*, *Turris Talemundi*, lies on the Sea-coast of *Poitou*, 12 Leagues West of *Fontenay-le-Comte*. The Franco-german name of *Talemond*, like to that of *Pharamond*, *Theudemond*, *Sigismond*, &c. shews that it had some of the Ancient French Lords for its founder. Under *Lewis VII.* it was still of the French King's Domains. Then it was seiz'd upon by the Lords of *Mauleon*, and at last fell to the share of the House of *La Trimouille*, which enjoys it as yet under the Title of Principality.

*Olonne*, *Olona* lies upon the same Coast, two Miles West of *Talmond*. It has the title of a County with an indifferent good Haven; but there are dangerous Sands too hard by, call'd *les Sables d'Olonne*. Its territory bears abundance of Wine and has likewise some Salt-Pits.

The other places of some note in *Poitou* are *la Garnache Gasnapia*, *Aspremont Aspermons*, *Bellus Visus Beauvoir sur Mer*, *Tremolia Trimouille*, *Castanetum Chastaigneraye*, *Luciacum Castrum*, *Lussac-le-Chateau*, *Fontenay-le-Battu*, *Marsillac* a Principality, *Roche-Chouart*, *Rupes-Cauardi*, which gives name to an Illustrious Family, &c.

of



## Of Annis.

I Would have gone on in the same method, as I have describ'd the other Governments, especially the *Ile of France*, *Picardy*, *Normandy*, *Britanny*, and the several Provinces of *Orleanois* hitherto, and have divided this Description into two Volumes: But the Book-Seller, who only design'd to have a Book of a lesser bulk, has so strongly oppos'd it, that I have been forc'd to comply with him; whatever reasons I could alledge, or resistance I could make, during several Months: So that I am compell'd to cut short with the remaining Provinces and Governments, and leaving out the remotest and most curious Antiquities and Histories, to content my self with a Geographical Description of the Principal Cities and Towns, and some hints here or there of History. By this unwelcome accident, all the observations I had made or collected in the space of many years are altogether useless, either to me or to the Publick, than which nothing can be more intolerable to an Author. However I shall enlarge somewhat more upon *Languedoc* and *Dauphiné*, then upon other Provinces.

*Annis* is a small Country of 9 or 10 Leagues extent North and South, and 4, 5, 6, 7, or 8 East and West, having the Figure of a Triangle, where



whereof the *Sevre Niortoise* and the *Sea* make the right Angle, and the *Charante* with a line drawn from *Tonnay-Charante* in *Saintonge* to *Fontenay-le-battu* in *Poitou* make the basis or subtending. Vulgar Latin Authors call it *Alnetum* and *Alnetensis Pagus*, as tho one should say a Grove of Alders, or the Land of Alder-trees. But 'tis more probable and agreeing with Antiquity to derive this appellations from *Aunay*, a place in *Poitou*, that is now inconsiderable, but was formerly the Capital of the County of *Aunis*, and is mention'd in the Tables of the Emperor *Theodosius*, publish'd by the Brothers *Peutingers*, under the name of *Avedonacum* and by *Aethicus*, under that of *Aunedonacum*: Thence comes *Pagus Avedonacensis* or *Aunedonacensis*, *le Pays d'Aunis*, which in time past made part of *Saintonge*, then of *Poitou*, and is now one of the Provinces of the Government *Orleanais*.

*Rochel* or *la Rochelle*, *Rupella* for *Repecula*, so call'd from the Rocks, that are near its Haven, is now the head of the Country of *Aunis*. It formerly depended on the Counts of *Poitiers* for the Temporal, and the Prelate of *Saintes* for the Spiritual, but has now a Bishop of its own, Suffragan to the Archbishop of *Bordeaux*. It has been a very considerable and well traded City, especially since its Inhabitants did put themselves in a condition to resist the *Normans*. It was subjected to the *English*, by the treaty of *Bretigny* against the will of the Inhabitants; Afterwards it returned to the Dominion of *France*. In the XVI Age the Inhabitants of *Rochelle* embrac'd the Reformation, and



and Anno 1567 they put the City in the hands of those of their own party. Henry of France Duke of Anjou, Brother of Charles the IX laid Siege to it during the Civil Wars, and had perhaps carry'd it by force, had not the Ambassadors of Poland brought him a Crown, which made him change his design, having resolv'd, by the advice of Cardinal de Richelieu to weaken the Protestants.

Lewis the XIII having resolv'd to Weaken the Protestants, and to re-Establish the Roman Religion in Bearn, demanded from them their Towns of security, whereat the Re-form'd were affray'd and assembled for that end at Rochelle, Anno 1620. They being beat Anno 1622, did implore the mercy of the French King: But having risen again this Prince besieged Rochelle and obliged it to surrender the 29 October Anno 1628. He demolished the Fortifications, and depriv'd the Inhabitants of their Priviledges; He suffer'd nothing to remain, but two Towers which Charles the V had built for the defence of the Harbour, and for its better security an Iron Chain is tied cross the entry of the Port, every night. Lewis XIV. did fortify it very strongly Anno 1689. by a good Citadel, and a great many other workes to prevent a Descent of the English and Dutch, and to keep the pretended new Converts under his Tyranny. This City was erected into a Bishoprick Anno 1648. The Episcopal Seat of Maillezais being transferr'd thither. Besides these, there is a Presidial Seat, a Court Sovereign, a Chamber of Mint, and a Haven very much frequented.

Rochel



*Rochel* lies about 92 Leagues West of *Paris*, 25 West of *Angouleme* and 32 North North-West of *Bordeaux*.

*Rochefort* is a Port in the Country of *Aunis*, near the mouth of the *Charante*, 6 Leagues South of *Rochel*. Formerly it was only a little Village, but now it's a considerable Town, being adorn'd with fine Building, and pleasant Gardens, Sea Magazines and Store Houses, and a Hospital for Old Wounded Souldiers, who have serv'd at Sea.

*Marans* is a Village on the *Sevre Niortoise*, situated in a Marsh ground, 7 Miles North North-East of *Rochel*, having a Castle about two Leagues from the Sea. This place suffer'd much during the Civil Wars of Religion, being often taken and retaken.

*Chatellillon* is a little Village situated nigh the Sea, about two Leagues from *Rochelle*. The other places are *Surgere*, *Benon*, *Maze*, *Courson*, *Port-Lapin*, *le Plomb*, *Angoulin*, *Nes*, &c.



## Of Angoumois.

**A**NGOUMOIS *Pagus Ecolismensis* hath *Sain-  
bringe* on the West, and South-West  
*Perigord* on the South, *Limosin* and *la  
Marche* on the East, and *Poitou* on the North.  
It is about 22 Leagues in length East and West,  
and 16 in breadth North and South. Its great  
Fertility doth sufficiently recompence its small  
extent. For this little Province abounds in  
Corn, Vine, Pasture-ground, Safron, &c.  
It's watered with several Rivers, namely the  
*Charente*, the *Taratuere*, the *Bardiac*, the  
*Bonema*, the *Sonne*, the *Argent*, the *Anguien-  
ne*. It's the Country of *Andrew Tbevet*, *Bal-  
sac*, and other Ingenious and Learn'd Men.

*Angouleme*, *Iculisna* or *Ecolisma*, the Capital  
City, is situated upon the *Charente*, 60 Leagues  
South-West of *Orleans*, and 28 North-East of  
*Bordeaux*, with the Title of a Dutchy, a  
Presidial-Sean, a Seneschals Court, an Election,  
and a Bishoprick suffragan of *Bordeaux*. It's  
a very Ancient Town situated upon the top  
of a Mountain between the two Rivers of *Cha-  
rante* and *Anguienne*, who join at the end of  
the Town. It has very fine Castle, which  
is accessible but at one side, being strongly  
fortify'd.

Cognac



*Cognac Conniacum*, is upon the *Charante* towards the Frontiers of *Saintonge* between *Jarnac* and *Saintes*, 10 Leagues West of *Angouleme*, in a Country extraordinary fertile, especially in delicate Wine.

*La Rochefoucault* is a Town upon the River *Tardouere*, four Leagues from *Angouleme* to the North-East. It bears the name of its founder one *Foucault*, being call'd in Latin *Rupes Fulcaudi* or *Fulcaudi*, and has giv'n its own to I one of the most Antient and Illustrious Houses of that Kingdom, which hath produced divers Great Men.

*Jarnac* is a Borough with the Title of County situated upon the *Charante*, between *Chateaufort* and *Cognac*; It's famous for the Battle which the Duke of *Anjou*, afterwards King *Henry III* did gain over the Protestants in the Month of May Anno 1569. they being commanded by the Prince of *Conde*, who was treacherously killed there, by *Montesquieu*; whence come the Proverb, *Un coup de Jarnac*, To say a Perfidy. The name of *Jarnac* is also famous for the merite of its Lords of the House of *Chabot*.

*Bouteville* is a Town situated near the Frontiers of *Saintonge*, about seven Leagues from *Angouleme*, towards the South.

*Rufec* or *Rufiacum* aut *Rosiacum*, is a little Town, 10 Leagues North of *Angouleme* with the Title of Marquisate; It's situated in a very pleasant part of the Country. The other places of note are *Chateaufort*, *Blansac*, *la Valette*, *Montheron*, *la Vignolles*, &c.



## Of the Islands depending of the Government Orleanois.

**T**Hose Islands lie on the Coasts of *Poitou* and *Aunis*, and are nam'd *Oleron*, *Ré*, *Oye*, *Isle-Dieu*, and *Nermoutier*.

*Oleron* *Uliartus* or *Olario*, is an Island upon the Coasts of *Aunis*, nigh the Mouth of the *Charente*, about two short Leagues from Land. It hath five Leagues in Diameter and about 12 in Circuit: It's fertile in Corn, and abounds with Rabbits. It was fortify'd in 1689, to hinder the Descent of the English.

The Isle of *Ré*, *Radia insula*, Vulgarly call'd *Reacns*, is nigh unto *Rochel* and belongs to the Government of the Country of *Aunis* and *Brouage*. Here is great Store of Salt, and such abundance of Wine that the Inhabitants would be forc'd to give the old to Poor People for Tunning of the New; if the English, Dutch and *Norman* Fleets came not every year to receive their Loading of it. This Island hath several Villages, the Cheif of which are *St. Martin* and *Oye* call'd the *Isle*, because of a Canal which must be pass'd as they enter into it. The most considerable Fort is that of *la Prée* pointed towards *Pestun Breton*. In it are two pieces



pieces of Artillery, which carry even to the Continent from the Island. It is Flanked with four Bastions, with Half Moons and other outworks. Anno 1689. they added some new Fortifications to it, on the side that looks on the main Sea. Here is a high Tower, where in the night time, they set up a Beacon, because of the Rocks call'd *Baleines* which are adjacent, and for this cause the Tower is call'd *la Tour des Baleines*, or the Tower of Wales.

*L'Isle-Dieu*, or rather, *l'Isle-d'ieu*, *Oia* or *Ogia*, is near *St. Gilles* in *Poitou*, about three Leagues from the Continent.

*Nermontier* lies not far from *Britanny*, near *Beauvoir* in *Poitou*, distant from the Continent about a League. In it is a rich Abby of *Benedictins*, resorting to the Bishoprick of *Lusson*, whence is deriv'd the name of *Nermontier*, *Nigrum Monasterium*.



## CHAP. XII.

*Of the Government of Guienne.*

**I**N the time of *Julius Caesar*, *Aquitain* reach'd not farther than from the *Garonne* to the *Pyrenées*, that is, it only comprehended what was since call'd *Novempopulana*, and now *Gascony*. But *August* extended it, Limits to the *Loire*, so that it contain'd besides the present Government of *Guienne*, the Provinces of *Poitou*, *Touraine*, *Berry*, *la Marche*, *Bourbonnois* and *Auvergne*, and made the fourth part of the *Gauls*. *Charlemaign* and *Lewis* the *Meek* follow'd this division when they erected it into a Kingdom for their youngest Sons. Most of those Provinces were since possess'd by the Dukes of *Guienne*, fell to the *English* by the Marriage of the *Dutchess Eleanor* with *Henry II.* and were Conquered from them by *Charles VII.*

The Dukes of *Guienne* had the third rank among the twelve Ancient Peers of *France*. The name of *Guienne* is a maimed Word from the Latin *Aquitania*, that is it self deriv'd from *Aqua*, because there are many Springs of Warm Water



Water, whence many Cities in this Government are still call'd to this day, as we shall see hereafter.

This Government borders to the North upon *Poitou*, *Angoumois* and *la Marche* ; to the East upon *Auvergne* and *Languedoc* ; on the South to the *Pyrenean Hills*, by which it is divided from *Spain* ; and the West to the Ocean. It lies between 42 D. 30 Min. and 46 D. 20 Min. of Latitude, and between 18 D. and 24 D. of Longitude, which amount from the South to the North to 100 Leagues, from *Aragnœt*, in the *Pyrenées* to *Niort* in *Poitou*, and to about 112 from *St. John de Luz* beyond *Bayonne* to *Saint Geniez* in *Rouergue* near *Gevaudan*.

The Soil is pretty Fruitful in Corn, Wines, Fruits, Pastures, &c. except the Lands (or Sandy-grounds) near the *Pyrenées*, where is nothing but Heaths and Pastures that feed abundance of Cattle : The Air is there sweet and wholesom.

This Government is Water'd by many Rivers, of which the Chiefest are the *Garonne*, and the *Charente* that have been already described the *Dordonne*, the *Lot* and the *Adour*, of which are after. The *Garonne* above all facilitates the Trade of Wine, Corn, Oyls, Brandy, Plums, Wooll. One may say for this Country that it has given to France brave Soldiers, and great Schollars ; for it is certain, that *Guienne* and *Languedoc* get as much honour in the Armies, and the Republick of Letters, as the rest of the Kingdom besides. The Inhabitants of this Province are generally Ingenious, Valiant, Cunning, but much derided for their Pride,



Pride, which has even passed into a Proverb.

As to the Rivers of *Guienne*, the chief are the *Garonne*, which has been describ'd p. 8. the *Charente* p. 263. the *Sendre*, that waters part of *Saintonge*, and falls into the Bay of *peruis de Maumussou*, South-East of the Isle of *Oleron* and South of *Brouage*. The *Dordonne*, that rises in *Auvergne* near a place call'd *Murat*, receives the *Chavanoy* near its source; then the *Rue*, the *Sumene*, the *Auze*, the *Louesse*, the *Somene*, the *Estarreau*, the *Sere* increas'd with the *Jordane* and *Autre*, the *Bave*, the *Nea*, the *Ser*: then goes through *Bergerac*, *Saincte Foy*, *Libourne*, where 'tis increa'd with the *Lisle*. This springs up in *Limosin*, at a place called *Meisse*, receives, near its source, the *Loulour* and the high *Vezere*, goes by *Perigueux*, *Montpont*, *Lussac*, where it receives the *Larrey* increased with the *Palais*, and a little higher the *Droune* increased with the *Coles*, *Boulon*, *Fanade*, *Embere*, *Voutron*, *Les Fontaines*, *Tude* and *Rissonne*, and then the *Save*, three Miles North of *Libourne*. The *Dordonne* thus swoln and able to bear great Boats, pursues its way to the West, receives the *Moron*, not far from *St. Andreu*, and mixing with the *Garonne* at a place call'd *Bourg*; they run together into the Ocean, making up a Bay of 2 or 3 Leagues in breadth, and 20 in length, under the name of *Gironde*.

The *Drot* rises in *Perigord* near a place call'd *Biron*, washes *Villereal*, *Castillonnes*, *Monsegur*, falls into the *Garonne* at *Caudrot*, and carries no Boats. The *Lot* springs from the Mountains of *Gevaudan*, waters *Mende*, *Entraygues*, where it receives the *Truyere*, increased with the *Bar*,



Lander and Epic, goes by *La Vintelle*, *Cadenac*, and *Cayrac*, is increased with the *Seze*, the *Celle* and *Iboly* that water *Figeac*; then runs through *Cabors*, where it begins to be navigable, receives the *Masse* and the *Lede*, with several other Rivulets, and discharges it self into the *Garonne*, betwixt *Clerac* and *Esguillon*.

The *Aveyron* issues in *Rouergue* near the Frontiers of *Govaudan*, washes *Rhodesz*, receives the *Biaur*, and together with this River makes the separation betwixt *Albigensis* and *Rouergue*; then is increased with the *Cerou* and *Ceret*, the *Bonnette*, the *Vere*, and the *Conde*, mixes with the *Tarn*, 5 Miles East of *Moissac*, where having received the *Lure* and *Lemboulas*; they run both into the *Garonne*. The *Senne* and some other Rivulets of less note fall also into the *Garonne*, betwixt the *Lot* and the *Aveyron*.

Then come the *Tarn*, the *Agout*, and the *Lers*, which I now go by, because they belong to *Languedoc*, to speak only of the Rivers of this Government, which fall into the *Garonne* on the South-side of it; as the *Touche* near *Muret*, the *Save* increased with the *Gesse* at *Grenade*; the *Nadesse* betwixt this Village and *Verdun*; the *Gimone* increased with the *Farampion* over against *Castel-sarasin*. The *Corre*, the *Ayrone*, the *Garnesin*, inconsiderable Brooks; the *Retz*, the *Giers* that goes through *Aux*, *Lezouze*, and discharges it self into the *Garonne* over against *Agen*. The *Baise* that comes from *Armagnac*, washes *Condom* and *Nerde*, receives the *Losse*, the *Lausou*, the *Lante*, the *Gelise*, and falls into the *Garonne* over against *Esguillon*. Lower down to the West this great River



ver is increas'd with many other Rivulets as the *Alizos*, the *Lavassane*, the *Loubens*, &c.

The *Leyre* or *Erre* rises in that barren Country call'd *Landes*, and falls into the Bay nam'd *Cape de Buchs* in the Country of *Medoc*.

The *Adour* issues from the *Pyrenees*, goes through *Tarbes*, receives the *Leschetz*, and the *Larrez* increased with the *Bouez*, waters *Ayre Grenade* and *Dax*, receives the *Gabas*, the *Leus*, the *Luy*, the *Gave* of *Pau*, which waters *Pau* and *Lescar*, and is increased with the *Vedan*, the *Gaves* of *Canterres* and *Azun*, the *Lazon*, the *Nes*, the *Baïsse*, the *Gaves* of *Ossau*, *Aspe*, *Oleron*, and *Salies*, the Rivulets of *Lou-vert* and *Lessas*. Then the *Adour* receives the *Bidouze*, the *Ayguette* and the *Nive* at *Bayonne*, 3 Miles from its Mouth. On the North-side it is increased with the *Midou*, that goes through *Ville-neuve*, *Mont de Marsan* and *Tartas*, and carries along with it the Waters of the *Ladon*, *Douze*, *Estampon*, *Ganeire*, *Lestrigon*, and *Gelouse*.

*Guienne* is now divided into 19 Provinces, whereof the first 8 belong to *Guienne*, and the 11 others to *Gascony*: *Proper Guienne*, *Basadois*, *Agenois*, *Querci*, *Rouergue*, *Limosin*, *Perigord*, *Xaintonge*, *Armagnac*, *Chalosse*, *Condomois*, *Landes*, *Terre de Labour*, *Lower Navarre*, *Viscounty of Soule*, *Bearn*, *Bigorre*, *Comminge*, *Conserans*. Their Capital Cities are, *Bordeaux* Archbishoprick, *Bazas* Bishoprick, *Agen* Bish. *Cahors* Bish. *Rhodes* Bish. *Limoges* Bish. *Perigueux* Bish. *Xaintes* Bish. *Auch* Archbishop. *S. Sever*, *Condom* Bish. *Dax* Bish. *Bayonne* Bish. *S. Palais*, *Mau-leon*, *Pau*, *Tarbes* Bish. *S. Bertrand* Bish. *S. Lizer*.



## Of Proper Guienne.

**G**uienne Proper, *Burdigalensis Ager*, lies between the Ocean on the West, *Gascogne* and *Bazadois* on the South, *Agenois* and *Perigord* on the East, and *Xaintonge* on the North. This Country is less plentiful in Corn then VVine, amongst which that of *Grave* is remarkable, and is transported every where by Sea; the Soil is not toward the Coasts like, in the little Counties of *Medis* and *Buch*.

There are chiefly to be taken notice of *Bordeaux*, *Libourne*, *Blaye*, *Lesparres*, *Rions*, *Cadillac*, &c.

The City of *Bordeaux*, *Burdigala*, or *Burdigala Biturigum Viviscorum*, who seem to be a Colony of the *Bituriges Cubi* or *Berruyers*, lies upon the *Garonne*. It has an University, a Parliament and an Archbishop, who entitles himself Primate of *Guienne*. *Clement V.* decided the priority in his behalf against that of *Bourges*, because he had been Archbishop of the former, though the right of Primacy belongs to the latter. It is one of the finest, greatest, and most trading Cities of the Kingdom, seated in a fruitful ground; *Ausonius* speaks thus of it.

*Burdi-*



*Burdigala est natale solum, clementia Cæli  
Mitis, ubi & rigua larga indulgentia Terra,  
Ver longum, Brumæque breves, juga frondæ  
subsunt, &c.*

Its Haven is very famous, it is called the Haven of the Moon, because it has the Figure of a Crescent: *Bordeaux* is likened to a Bow, of which the *Garonne* is the String; they reckon 15 Leagues from this City to the Sea, and the *Fare* called *La Tour de Cordouan*, which is very remarkable, and is the Work of *Lewis* of *Roiss* an able Engineer; The University has been very flourishing; King *Charles VII.* restored it to its luster; the Pope *Eugene IV.* gave it great Privileges, and *Lewis XI.* increased them: *S. Jerome* and *Anthonius* speak of the great Men it has brought forth; both for Learning and Piety.

*Libourne*, is upon the *Dordonne* at its conjunction with the River *Lisse*, 7 Leagues from *Bordeaux* to the North-East. Near this Town rises a Mountain of Water, which the Inhabitants call the *Mascaret* of *Bordeaux*; at the very time that the Waters are most calm, it is formed in a trice, and runs a great way along the River, overthrowing all the Boats it meets with. It's said that the River *Pegu* in the Kingdom of *Martaban* now depending on the Emperour of *Siam* has still more violent fits.

*Blaise*, *Blavia* or *Blavutum*, lies upon the *Gironde* 7 Leagues down from *Bordeaux* Northward, and 4 Leagues from the *Bec d'Arnbès*,



where is the confluence of the Garonne and Dordogne : The Country about Blaye is called *le Blaignez, Blaviensis pagus.*

## Of Bazadois.

**B**azadois, *Ager Vasatensis*, lies between Proper Guienne on the North and West, the Landes on the South, and Agenois on the East, 'tis a Country pretty fruitful in Corn, VVines, and Fruits.

There are chiefly Bazar Bish. the Capital, La Reole, whether the Parliament of Bourdeaux was once transferr'd 12 or 14 years ago ; Castelgeloux, Nerac, Genissac, Caudrot, Buzet, Castelnau de Mames, &c.

**B A Z A S** *Cossio Vasatum* or *Vasata*, is a City near the Source of the Lavassane or Vassanne, with a Seneschal's Court, and a Bishoprick Suffragan of Auch. It is seated upon a Rock, whose bottom is watered by that little River, in a Country full of Woods and sandy Grounds, almost 4 Leagues North of the Garonne, and 11 North-East of Bourdeaux under 44 Deg. 24 Min. of Lat. and 19 Deg. 34 Min. of Long. St. John the Baptist has the Cathedral Church dedicated to his Name, and *Sextilius* is accounted its first Bishop.

Of



## Of Agenois.

A *Gemois* Borders upon *Armagnac* to the South, to *Querci* to the East, on *Perigord* to the North, and *Bazadois* to the West: This is the most plentiful Country of *Guienne*, and supplies many Provinces with Corn, Wine, and Oyl of Nuts: Its call'd in *Latin Pagus Aginensis*.

The Places of more note are Agen Bish. *Villeneuve*, *Aiguillon*, *Tonneins*, *Clerac*, *S. Foy*, &c.

The City of Agen, *Aginnum Nitribrigum*, lies upon the *Garonne* with a Presidial and Seneschalship, and a Bishoprick Suffragan of *Bordeaux*; It was the chief City of those ancient *Nitribriges* that were so considerable among the *Gauls*, and the true Founders of this City, without ascribing to it any fabulous original. This City is great and populous.



## Of Quercy.

**Q**UERCY Pagus Cadurcinus, lies betwixt Languedoc on the South, Rouergue and Auvergne on the East, Limosin on the North, and Perigord and Agenois on the West; its extent from South to North is above 30 Leagues, from Montauban in Languedoc to Threnne in Limosin; 20 East and West, from Mont-murat near Cadenac to Pestillac near Villefranche in Perigord, which are its greatest length and breadth. This Country is pretty fruitful in Corn, Wines, Fruits, and Pastures: There is a great Trade of Plums, Saffron, and good VVool. Its Inhabitants brought in formerly about 12000 Men in the League of the Gauls against the Romans. Querci is divided into upper and lower, the upper called *Causse* contains the Valleys that are along the River *Lot*, the lower or *Villes basses* is extended along the *Auveiron*. This Province belongs to the Government of *Guienne*, though it depends on the Parliament of *Toulouse*, and the generality of *Montauban*, which has under it 3 Elections, viz. *Cahors*, *Montauban*, and *Figeac*. Querci was annexed to the Crown in the beginning of the Reign of *Philip the Bold*, as being the Inheritance of the Counts of *Toulouse*. In 1306. *Philip the Fair* did covenant with *Raimond Paucholi* Bishop of *Cahors* for the right



right of Peerage, allowing him to take the title of Count.

The most remarkable Places of Quercy are *Cahors*, Bishop. The Capital; *Gourdon*, *Moissac*, *Figeac*, *Lauserte*, *Montrastier*, *Montpesat*, *Souillac*, *Martel*, *Cadenac*, &c.

*CAHORS*, *Cadarcum* or *Divona Cadurcorum* has an University, a Seneschal's Court, and a Bishoprick Suffragan of *Bourges*: It lies upon the *Lot* in a Demi-Island, which is formed by that River, which has three Bridges of Stone, and is very useful to the Inhabitants for several Manufactures: It is rais'd upon a steep Rock, where was formerly a Cittadel. *James Ossa* Bishop of *Frejus*, afterwards a Cardinal, and Pope under the name of *John XXII.* was born in this Town, where he Founded in 1331. an University, to shew his Love towards his own Country; which has had famous Professors. Its Cathedral Church is dedicated to *S. Stephens*, and if we believe fabulous Authors it was consecrated by *S. Martial* himself; there are many other Churches and Monasteries, with a College of Jesuits since 1605. *Cahors* lies 42 Leagues East of *Bordeaux*.

*Gourdon* is 8 Leagues from *Cahors* Northward. *Moissac* lies on the River *Tarn* (which soon after loses it self into the *Garonne*) with a Seneschal's Jurisdiction, 17 Leagues from *Cahors* to the South, and 6 Leagues from *Montauban* to the West: It is a very ancient Town, that has often been ruined; for the *Goths* took it from the *Romans*; and King *Clovis* took it again from the *Goths*; afterwards it was seiz'd by *Gaiger Duke of Aquitain*, and retaken by



King Pepin, in 1212. Raimond Count of Toulouse made it side with the Albigenſes; Simon Count of Montfort ſtorm'd and plunder'd it; the Engliſh did utterly deſtroy it; and it ſuffered much during the Wars againſt the Proteſtants; ſo that this Town is very different from what it has formerly been; though it has yet a very famous Abbey of St. Bennets Order, where, as 'tis ſaid, have been near 1000. Monks at once: The Abbot is Joynt-Lord of it with the King, which was regulated by a Sentence in 1229. &c.

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of



## Of Rouergue.

**R**OUERGUE, *Rutenicus Ager*, Borders to the East upon the *Cevennes*, to the North upon *Auvergne*, to the West upon *Quercy*, and to the South upon *Languedoc*: It lies between 43 Deg. 30 Min. and 44 Deg. 46 Min. of Lat. and betwixt 22 Deg. 22 Min. and 24 Deg. 15 Min. of Long. So that it takes up 37 Leagues East and West from *S. Jean de Breuil* to *S. Antonin* in its greatest length; and 28 North and South from *Mur de Barrez* to *Brusquez*. This Province is divided into three Parts, viz. the County, the Upper and Lower Marche; the chiefest City of the first is *Rodez*, of the second *Milhan*, of the third *Villefranche*. The Country is very plentiful in some places, but barren in others. There are Mines of Iron, Antimony, Copper, Brimstone, Alum, Silver, and as *Strabon* says of Gold too. The greatest revenue of *Rouergue* consists in Cattel, Wools, Fruits, Cheeses, Hemps, and Lines; the only Trade of Mules that are bought there, for *Spain* brings in every Year above 200000 Crowns. Its Principal Rivers are the *Tarn*, the *Lot*, and the *Aveiron*; It depends on the Parliament of *Toulouse*, and boasts of 25 Towns, and 50 great Burroughs; 2 Bishopricks, and 3 Elections, under the Generality of *Montauban*.  
There



There are ordinarily commended *Rodez* for his People, *Conques* for its Gate ; *Milbau* for plenty of Almonds , *Nerac* for Vitriol, *St. Ap-  
tinn* for Plums , *Roquefort* for Cheeses , *Mon-  
salvi* for its delicate blew and green Peases,  
*Vonse* and *Espalion* for excellent good Bread,  
the Abbey of *Aubrac* for its Hospital and Alms,  
*Severac* for its Castle , *Marcillac* a Principalty  
for the Cave or den call'd *Bouche-Roland*, that  
is near it and reaches four Leagues under  
ground. The Inhabitants are both Couragious  
and Honest ; The Nobility there is very Ge-  
nerous and much respected by the Common  
People.

The City of *Rhodes Segodunum* or *Ruteni*,  
is seated on the *Aveiron*, 24 Leagues South-  
East of *Ca'ors*, and has the title of a County, a  
Seneschalship and Bishoprick Suffragan of *Albi*.  
It is very Ancient ; but it has lost its former  
Ancient greatness, having been often ruin'd  
by the *Goths*, *Saracens*, *French*, &c. The  
Cathedral is under the name of our *Lady* ; there  
are many others Churches and Monasteries,  
and a fine Colledge of *Jesuits*. Its first Bistop  
was, as 'tis believ'd, *St. Amand*. The Counts of  
this City were of the House of *Carlat*, and  
possessed that part, which is called the *Borough*,  
and the Bishops were Master of the other that  
Bears the name of the City. The County  
belonged to the Counts of *Toulouse*. *Alfonsius*  
the I. having resolv'd to take the Cross, and  
to make a Journey into the Holy Land, sold it in  
1147. to *Richard* Son of *Raimond* Viscount  
of *Carlat*. *Richard* left it to his Son *Hughes* I.  
Count of *Rodez*, &c. It Was afterwards an-  
nexed



nexed to the County of *Armagnac*, by a Marriage and a Judgment in the year 1312. *John I.* Count of *Armagnac*, had a Grant of the French King *Charles V.* in 1375. that the four Jurisdctions of *Rouergue* should be Annexed to the County of *Rodez*, which are *St. Geniez*, *la Roque-Valsergue*, *Castagnes*, *Begonimez* and *la Guiole*. After that, all the Estates of the House of *Armagnac* came into that of *Albrer*, and the French King *Henry the IV.* carried to the Crown the County of *Rodez*, as being the Patrimony of the House of *Armagnac*. There is near that City, the Mountain of *Cansac*, which burns in the rain. There are Mines of Copper, Arsenick, Azur and Silver. Two Leagues from that Place, is an Abyss called *Tindoul*, 60 Paces broad and 200 deep; On the side of that Abyss is to be seen a hole without Bottom.

The City of *VABRES* *Castrum Vabrense*, is a Bishoprick and County Suffragan of *Alby*. It was formerly a Famous Abby of *St. Benets*, Order, which Pope *John XXII.* in 1317. Erected to a Cathedral Church. The Abbot *Peter Orlageo* was its first Bishop. It is 12 Leagues South of *Rodez*.

*MILHAU*, *Amilianum* or *Æmilianum*, is the Chief Town of the Upper *Marche*, being upon the *Tarn* toward the Frontiers of *Gevaudan*, 14. Leagues South-East of *Rodez*. There are a great many Almond-Trees. This Town has been famous during the Wars of Religion; it being a strong hol'd, but its Fortifications were razed, in 1629. The Country depending on it is call'd *Æmilianus-Pagus*.

*Villefranche*



**VILLEFRANCHE**, is the Chief Town of the Lower *March*, with a Seneschalship and Presidial, 12 Leagues West of Rodez. The People is there very Civil, and serviceable, and provisions plentiful and cheap.

*Saint Antonin* lies upon the Confluence of the *Aveiron* and *Bonnete*, 18 Leagues West, South-West of Rodez, with high Walls round it. In the year 1226. *Guy* of *Montfort* yielded to the French King the Right he had on that Town, *Raimond* Count of *Toulouse* protested against that Gift; but in 1229. he approved, by an Act, of the Arbitrators Sentence pronounced by the Popes Legate, and the Count of *Champagne* upon the Matter; So that *St. Antonin* was adjudged to the Crown in 1245, *Besnard Hugonis*, Son to *Frocard* Viscount of *St. Antonin* having sold to the French King *Lewis IX.* what ever Right he had upon it. The Protestants had Fortified themselves there, but *Lewis XIII.* turned them out of it, in 1622. This Town is famous for its Plums. There are besides others considerables Places, as *St. Just*, *Estain*, *Entraigues*, *St. Come*, *St. Geniez*, the Town and County of *Espalion*, *Severac le Castel*, *la Guiole*, the Abby of *Aubrac*, &c.

of



## Of Limosin.

**L**IMOSIN, *Lemovicinus Pagus*, Borders upon *Auvergne* to the East, upon *la Marche* to the North, part of *Poitou Angoumois* and *Perigord* to the West, and *Quercy* to the South. It lies between 44 Deg. 52 Min. and 45 Deg. 45 Min. of Latitude, and between 21 Deg. 40 Min. and 23 Deg. 20 Min. of Longitude, which make from South-East to North-West about 38 Leagues from *Port-Dieu* on the Frontiers of *Auvergne* to *la Roche-chouart* in *Angoumois*, in its greatest length and 24 North and South from *S. Prieux* on the Confluence of the *Vienne* and *Taurion*, and the Borders of *la Marche*, to *Beaulieu* on the *Dordonne* near the Province of *Quercy*. This Country is generally cold and barren; there is scarce any good Wine, Save in the Lower *Limosin*, and little Wheat, but plenty of Rye, Barley, and Chestnuts, of which the poorer sort make bread; and because when they first go out of that Country, and meet with good bread, they eat it most greedily, thence bread-gluttons have gotten in French the Surname of *Limosins*. In *Cesar's* time the *Limosins* brought in 10000 Men for the Confederacy of the *Gauls* against the *Romans*: This People is now adays ingenious, prudent, laborious and saving; they have given 9 or 6 Popes.



6 Popes to the Church. *Limosin* is divided into Upper and Lower; the chief City of the first is *Limoges*, of the second *Tulle*. The Principal Rivers are the *Dordonne*, the *Vienne*, the *Vezere*, and the Upper *Vezere*, &c.

The City of *Limoges*, *Ratiastum*, and *Le Movic*, is seated partly on the top of a little Hill, and partly in a Valley upon the River *Vienne*, surrounded with good strong Walls, and deep ditches; a *Gaulish* Prince, as 'tis pretended, built it and gave it his name; it has much suffer'd in divers times by the *Goths*, *French*, and *English*: Under King *Charles V.* the Lord High Constable *du Guesclin* took it from the *English* in 1371, and the Prince of *Wales* retook it a little while after by storm, where 4000 People fell a Sacrifice to his wrath, but the *French* King got it again soon after. The Cathedral is under the name of *St. Stephen*, whose first Bishop *St. Martial* is accounted to be, tho with little proofs. There are three considerable Abbeys of *St. Austin*, *S. Martial*, and *S. Martin*, and several other Monasteries with a Presidial and a Generality. This Town has had its Hereditary Viscounts, who were Sovereigns of the whole Province: Many Councils have been held there: *Limoges* lies near the borders of *la Marche* 34 Leagues North of *Cahors* and 19 North-East of *Perigueux*.

*TULLE Tutela Castrum*, is watered by two Rivers *Courreze* and *Soulane*, 15 Leagues South-East *Limoges*; the Abbey of *St. Martin* was erected here to a Bishoprick by Pope *John XXII.* in 1318: of which *Arnold* of *St. Astier* was the first Abbot, and the first Bishop: Its Prelates are



are Viscounts and Lords of the Town. There is a Presidial and an Election ; this is the Country of the ancient Family of *Gardia*. There are also to be noted the Viscounty of *Turenne*, *Brive la Gaillarde*, *Uzerche*, a strong Town ; the Dukedom of *Ventadour*, *Roche-Abeille*, famous for a Fight in the year 1569. *St. Hivier*, *S. Junian*, *Chalus*, considerable for its Markets of Horses. *Aix* renowned in that Country for the excellent Bread that is bak'd there *Preigebriere* the first Barony of *Limosin*.

### Of Perigord.

**PERIGORD** *Pagus Petrocoricus*, Borders to the East on part of *Quercy* and *Limosin*, to the North, *Angoumois* to the West on part of *Xaintonge* and *Guienne*, properly so called to the South, on *Agenois* and part of *Quercy* ; it lies betwixt 44 Deg. 38 Min. and 45 Deg. 30 Min. of Latitude ; and betwixt 20 Deg. 30 Min. and 22 Deg. of Longitude, which makes 24 Leagues North and South from the Source of the *Droune* to the Barony of *Biron*, near the Source of the *Drot*, and 26 East and West from *Sarlat* to *Roche-Chalais*. 'Tis a rough, stony, and mountainous Country ; but for all that pretty fruitful ; There are many Medicinal Springs, and some Mines of Iron and Steel ; it is divided into Upper and Lower *Perigord* ; the first called



called *Blanc* or *White*, because of its Mountains 'tis North-West betwixt the two *Venzeres*, and the other that was South-East along the Rivers *l'Ille*, and *Dordonne*, is called *Noir*, or *Black*, because of its Woods. There are abundance of Wall-nuts, Chest-nuts, several sorts of Simples, and Wine in some places, this Province since the declining of the Monarchy had particular Counts till *Lewis XII.* who gave them other Lands in exchange, and which the French King *Henry IV.* annexed to the Crown.

The City of *Perigueux*, call'd at first *Vesunna Petrocoriorum*, and afterwards *Petrocorii* or *Petrocori*, by the name of its ancient Inhabitants, is the chief of the Upper *Perigord*, and of the whole Province, lies upon the River *l'Isle* with a Bishoprick, Suffragan of *Bordeaux*, of which it's distant 28 Leagues to the North-East. It is a very ancient City, yet not so ancient as to have been founded by one of *Noah's* Sons, as some would have it; it has often been ruined by the incursions of Barbarians. In 768. *Pepin le Bref* (or the Short) got near that Town a famous Victory over *Gaifer* Duke of *Aquitain*: *St. Front* was its first Bishop; its Cathedral, under the Name of *St. Stephen*, was much defaced during the Civil Wars.

The most considerable places are, besides *Perigueux* and *Sarlat*; *Beaumont*, *Bergerac*, *Roche-chalais*, *Brantome*, *Ville-Franche de Perigord*, *Montignac*, on the *Vezere*, in whose Castle the ancient Counts of *Perigord* used to reside, *Montpont* the Head of a small Country call'd the *Conquest*, betwixt the Rivers *L'Isle* and *Double*, and the Village of *Mucidan*. *Castillon* on the *Dordonne*,  
9 Miles



9 Miles East of *Libourne*, and 25 North-East of *Bordeaux*, where our *English* General *Talbot*, who had maintained the Wars many years, with a handful of Men, against all the Power of *Charles VII.* was at length routed in 1451. At *Miremont* is to be seen a subterraneous Cavern or Den, that reaches very far under the Ground. At *la Douze* a Burrough, and *Marquize*, betwixt *Montignac* and *Miremont*, is made the best Paper in the Country. *Hautesfort*, *Bourdeilles* and *Exidneil* have also the Titles of *Marquizes*, *Ribrac* that of a County, *Mareuil*, *Bainac*, and *Biron* are ancient Baronies, and *La Force*, which gives the name of Dukes to an illustrious Protestant family, is the finest House in *Perigord*.

### Of Saintonge.

**S**AINTONGE and corruptively *Xaintonge*, *Pagus*, *Santonicus*, &c.

*Sarlat*, *Sarlatum*, and *Sarlatium*, Capital of Lower *Perigord*, and more especially of a small Country thereabouts call'd *Pagus Sarlaticus* Le *Sarladois*, lies on the source of the *Nea*, 2 Leagues North of the *Dordonne*, and but one from the Borders of *Quercy*. There was an ancient Abbey of *Benedictins*, chang'd by Pope *John XXII.* in 1317, into a Cathedral Church, of which *Raimond* of *Roquecor* was the first Bishop.



shop. This Town has a Seneschal's Court, and is strong by its situation, for it maintained two Sieges during the Civil Wars of the Princes in 1652.

*Santonium* Borders upon *Angoumois* and *Perrigord* to the East, on *Poitou* and the Country of *Aunis* to the North, on the Ocean to the West, and on proper *Guienne* to the South; it lies between 19 Deg. 5 Min. and 20 Deg. 53 Min. of Longitude, and between 45 Deg. 5 Min. and 46 Deg. 20 Min. of Latitude, which makes about 34 Leagues East and West from *Roche Beaucourt* and *les Fontaines* to the Bay call'd *Pertuis* of *Maumusson*, and 32 North and South from the *Sevre Niortoise* to very near the *Save* in proper *Guienne*. This Country is very plentiful in Corn, Wine, Pastures, Saffron, good Fish, and above all in Wormwood, and Rosemary that have particular Virtues. A great quantity of good Salt is made upon the Coast; and it is a common saying, that were *France* an Egg, *Xaintes* would be the Yolk of it; its principal Rivers are the *Garonne*, the *Charante*, the *Seudre*, &c. which are very convenient for the Carriage and Transportation of Commodities.

The City of *SAINTES* or *Xaintes Mediolanum Santonum*, and in latter Ages *Santoni*, lies upon the *Charante*, with a Bishoprick Suffragan of *Bordeaux*, from which it is distant 22 Leagues to the North, and almost 10 from the Sea to the East: It has had particular Counts as well as the whole Province, and is very ancient; there are still to be seen the remains



remains of an Amphitheatre and Aqueducts, of a triumphant Arch upon the *Charante*, and many Inscriptions of the Romans. *S. Eutropius* is accounted its first Bishop, and its Cathedral Church is dedicated to *St. Peter*, but it was almost ruin'd during the Wars of Religion.

*Brouage, Santonum portus*, lies on a narrow Bay over against the Isle of *Oleron*, 8 Leagues West of *Saintes*. It is called in vulgar Latin *Broagium*, from the mildness of its Soyl, and is the head of the Country thereabouts called *le Brouageois*, that constitutes a particular Government, in which are two of the finest Burroughs in France, *Marennes*, and *la Tremblade*, where the French King has a Store-house for his Vessels. And tho the Country be but small, yet because of the customs, it yields 14 Millions of Livers, whieh amount near to 1100000 pound Sterling, to the French King. This together with the conveniency of the Havens and Salt-pits makes *Brouage* an important Town, for which reason it is strongly fortified.

The other places of note are *S. Jean d'Angeli, Engeriacum* or *Ingeriacum*, on the River *Boutonne*, 8 Leagues North of *Saintes*: It was formerly very strong, and given to the Protestants as one of their Towns of security; but *Lewis XIII.* who took it from them by storm in 1621, pull'd its Walls down: *Taillebourg* has a Bridge on the *Charante*, and is famous for a Battel fought there in 1242. by *Lewis the IXth's* Forces, with the Count of *La Marche* that had revolted against him.

*Soubize*, and *Royan* are two Sea ports, the first who gave the name of Duke to a famous Prote-



Protestant Commander, lies on the Mouth of the *Charante*, and the other on the Bay of the *Gironde*, *Mortaigne*, and *Chalais* have titles of Principalities *Posnac* and *Matha* of Counties, *Aubeterre* of a Viscounty. *Montausier* was erected into a Dutchy and Peerdom in 1665. *Pons* is a *Sirauté* or ancient Lordship, on which 250 fees are depending. *Barbezieux* gives now Title of a Marquess to one of *Louvoys* Sons, Secretary of State to *Lewis XIV.* *Jonsac* and *Mirembeau* are also considerable Lordships.

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### [Of Armagnac.

**A**R M A G N A C, *Armaniacum*, is a County in *Gasconne*, between *Languedoc* on the East, the *Garonne* and *Condomois* on the North, *Chalosse* and *Bigorre* on the West, and *Cominges* on the South: There is a great plenty of Corn, excellent Wines, Cattel, and Fowls. This Country in *Cæsar's* time was inhabited by the *Elusates*, whose Capital *Euse* or *Eause*, *Elusa* or *Aceluso* was then a Metropolitan, and *Aux* a Bishoprick only; but the two Dioceses having been melted in one, and the Archiepiscopal Seat transferr'd to *Aux*; *Eause* became an inconsiderable place, and retains nothing of its former grandeur, but



but an Archiepiscopal Palace : *Eause* is seated on the River *Gelise*, and the Borders of *Comdomois* almost 14 Leagues South of *Bazas*, so that from *Serignac* on the *Garonne*, and *Aragnuet* in the *Pyrenees*, *Armagnac* is extended 43 Leagues North and South in its greatest length, and 30 East and West from *Verdan* on the *Garonne*, to *Aire* or *Barcelonne* on the *Adour*. Thus this County, together with the Countries of *Riviere* and *Verdan* are included betwixt 42 Deg. 40 Min. and 44 Deg. 10 Min. of Latitude, 19 Deg. 50 Min. and 21 Deg. 40 Min. of Longitude. It has had famous Counts, and has above 1800 Fees subject to the *Ban* and *Rear-ban*.

The most remarkable places are *Auscb* Archbishoprick *Lelloure*, a Bishoprick and strong City with a Cittadel ; *Vic d'Armagnac*, where the Counts of *Fosensac* us'd to reside, who receiv'd homage of 300 Gentlemen ; *Vic de Lomagne* Capital of the Country of that Name : There is also *Miradou* which stopp'd the designs of the Prince of *Conde* in 1652. *Astirande* Capital of the Country of *Estrac*. *Verdan* Capital of the Country of that Name. *La Bastide*, *Jegun*, *Naugaro*, *Trie*, &c.

The City of *Aux* or *Auscb*, *Augusta Auscorum* and *Ausci*, lies upon the *Giers*, with a Presidial and Archbishoprick : 'Tis said to have been a *Roman* Colony, which is confirmed by its Antiquities ; it has some remains of the magnificence of the Counts of *Armagnac* : *Clovis* the Great is thought the Founder of the Cathedral, which is one of the most magnificent and richest Churches in the Kingdom ; its first Bishop



is thought to be *Aufronius*, its Chapter consists of 15 Dignitaries, and 20 Prebendaries, of which 5 are Lay-men, who sit in the Quire, and have a share in the Distributions: These are, the Count of *Armagnac*, and the four Barons of *Montaut*, *Pardillan*, *Montesquiou*, and *l'Ile*: The 15 Dignitaries are the *Provoost*, 3 Abbots of *Faget*, *Idrac*, and *Cere*; 7 Archdeacons of *Angles*, *Sabanes*, *Sos*, *Vic d'Armagnac*, *Magnoac*, *Astarac*, and *Pardillan*; two Priors of *Montesquiou*, and *S. Mary of Snow*; a Sexton who is withal a Parson, and a Theolocal (or Professor of Divinity.) There are also 36 Incumbents, eight Chaplains of the Holy Ghost, and *St. Denys*, 37 Chaplains in ordinary, and divers Clerks for the Divine Service. The Archbishop has the Moiety of the Lordship of the City; there are many other Churches and Monasteries, &c.

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of



## Of Chalosse.

**C**HALOSSE or Gascony properly so called, lies between Armagnac on the East, Condomois on the North, the Landes on the West, and Bearn on the South. This Country bordering too much on the Landes, or waists of Gascony, produces nothing but Rye, Millet, and some Pastures. It reaches 13 Leagues North and South, from the Source of the Gelouse to the Burrough of Mant upon the Luy, and 13 East and West from Aire to beyond Gaviac, &c. The chiefest Places are, Aires Bish. Cap. S. Sever, Meugron, Arzac, Monmuy.

The City of Aires, *Vicus Juli, Aturensium Civitatis*, or *Atura*, is a Bishoprick Suffragan of Auch, seated on the Adour in a plentiful Country, almost 27 Leagues South of Bourdeaux. It depends on the Seneschal of Bazas, and the Parliament of Guienne without further appeal: The Kings of the *Visigoths* made their Residence there; there is still to be seen on the River side, the Ruins of *Alaric's* Palace, he that made publick in 506, the *Theodosian Code*, which had been revised by *Anian* his Chancellor: Since that time this Town has often been ruin'd by the *Saracens*, *Normans*, &c. it suffered much during the late Civil Wars. There

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is



is an Abbey of *S. Quiterne*, which is celebrated for the Martyrdom of that Saint; it is con-cathedral with that of *Aves*, which has the Blessed Virgin for Patron. The ancientest Bishop is *St. Marcel*, who sent in 506. one of his Priests to the Council of *Agde*; the Chapter has two Archdeacons, and the whole Dioceses is divided under 6 Arch-priests, &c.

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## of Condomois.

**C**ONDOMOIS *Pagus Condomiensis*, is a small Country betwixt *Armagnac* and *Agenois* on the East, *Basadois* on the North, the *Landes* and *Chalosse* on the West, and part of *Chalosse* and *Armagnac* on the South. It reaches 30 Leagues East and West from *Estaffort* on the *Giers* to beyond the *Gelouse*; but its greatest extent North and South is hardly 12 Leagues, and in some places only 2, 4, 6 or 7. However 'tis subdivided in other smaller Countries, as *Marsan*, *Gavardan*, *Fesensaguet*, &c. They say that *Condomois* yields all the necessaries for life, and borrows nothing of its Neighbours. The most considerable Places are *Condom Bish.* *Gondrin*, *Corrensan Mezin*, *Sos*, *Rimbes*, *Montreal*, *Gabaret Cap. of Gavardan*, *Mauvesin Capital of Fesensaguet*, *Mont de Marsan* with *Roquefort* and *St. Justin*, &c.

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The City of Condom, *Condomium Vasconum*, is seated upon the Baise, Balisa, with a Bishoprick Suffragan of Bourdeaux, three Leagues from Nerac; it has a Presidial and Election, since it was separated from the Bishoprick and Seneschalship of Agen. The Pope John XXII. created it into a Bishoprick in 1327. and gave it the revenues of an Abbey of St. Benedikt, consecrated to St. Peter, which is now the Cathedral. Raimond Gontard last Abbot of that Abbey, was the first Bishop of Condom, and the Canons were secularized in 1549. There are many other Churches, and several Monasteries. This City was taken in 1569. by Gabriel of Montmorency Commander of the Protestants.



## Of the Landes.

**T**HE LANDES are along the Sea, between the Country of Labourd on the South, Chalosse on the West, and Bourdeaux on the North. This is a barren Country, that has in some places nothing but Heaths and Pastures, where abundance of Cattel is feeding; in some other places it yields a little Corn, and a great deal of Rye by the means of burnt Earth, which mixed with the sandy Soyl, fattens it and makes it fruitful. It's extended 33 Leagues North-East and South-West from Belin to Bayonne. But only 12, in its largest breadth from Tartas on the Adour to the Sea. It was the Habitation of the ancient Tarbelli, whom Caesar and Strabo describe as living on the Sea-Coast of Aquitain from Bourdeaux to the Pyrenees. The Places to be noted are, Dax Bish. Tartas, Belin, le Marter, Magese, Albret, &c.

The City of Dax or Aqs, *Aque Augusta*, or *Aque Tarbellica*, lies upon the Adour, with a Bishoprick Suffragan of Auch, and a Seneschal's Court, 13 Leagues North-East of Bayonne. It is a trading City, rich and well built, with a Castle flank'd by many big round Towers, with a Garrison in it; it is famous for its warm and healthful Bathes, which were in great consideration in the times of the Romans;



mans; whence comes its name of *Aque*, and that of *Aquitain*.

## Of Labourd.

**T**HE Land or Country of *LABOURD*, or rather *Lapord*, *Lapurdensis pagus*, lies on the Frontiers of *Spain*, between *Bearn* on the East, the *Landes* on the North, and the *Ocean* on the West. This Country has in most places little Corn and Wine, but is plentiful in Fruits, especially Pears and Apples, of which they make excellent Syder. It yields a great deal of Miller, and Physical Herbs of great Virtue; Whales have been taken upon its Coasts; and there are Mineral Waters good for several Distempers. This Country reaches 17 Leagues East and West from *Bidache* to *Fontarabie*, but its extent North and South, is not above six or seven Leagues. The chief Places are, *Bayonne* Bish. St. *Jhn de Luz*, *Lusson*, that is muddy places; *Bidache*, *Sboulé*, &c.

The City of *Bayonne*, *Lapurdum*, *Biaticum Civitas*, and vulgarly *Baiona*, lies on the Confluence of the *Adour* and *Nive*, which three Miles after disburthen themselves into the Sea. It has a Bishoprick Suffragan of *Auscb*, and is one of the Keys of the French Kingdom toward *Spain*; it is very rich because of its Trading, and very strong. The word *Bayonne* comes from



*Baie* a Port, and from *Juna* which signifies good in the *Bask* or Country Language, so that it's as much as to say *Good Port*. 'Tis in the Castle of this City, called *Lapurdum*, that the Tribun of the *Novem Populan Cohort* made his Residence; it is under the Seneschal's Jurisdiction of *Dax*. Near this City is a Hill on the top of which one may see part of three Kingdoms, viz. of *France*, *Castile*, and *Navarre*. The Cathedral is dedicated to the blessed Virgin, and *St. Leon*: There are many other Churches and several Monasteries: This Bishoprick was once extended into three Kingdoms, viz. *France*, *Navarre*, and *Castile*; but in 1565. *Philip II. K.* of *Spain*, obtained from the Court of *Rome* the dismemb'ing of it, on behalf of *Pampelune*. This Country had formerly its own Viscounts; Ships of any rate come up the River which is very deep, as far as the middle of the City.

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## Of Lower Navarre.

**THE LOWER NAVARRE** Borders on the Country of *Labourd* to the North-West, and West, on the *Pyrenees* to the South, and the Viscounty of *Soule* to the East. It is a Mountainous Country; which produces little Corn or Wine, and yields only Millet, Oates, Pears and Apples, of which they make *Sydar*, that is the usual drink of the Inhabitants. Pasture ground is very good here; the flesh of Cattel very delicate, and the Wool very fine; Game both small and great is likewise very common.

The most remarkable places are, *St. Palais* the Capital, *St. John pie de Port*, *S. Johannes Imopyrenei*, *Garris Garrucium*, *la Bastide de Clarence*.

*S. Palais*, *Fanum Sancti Pelagii* is seated on the Rivers *Bidouze*, almost 12 Leagues South-East of *Bayonne*. It was the Seat of Chancery and Sovereign Justice before the Institution of the Parliament of *Pau* in 1620. it has still a Court of Mint, &c.



## Of Soule.

**T**HE Viscounty of *SOULE*, *Subola*, is a little Country that makes part of *Navarre*, and lies betwixt it and *Bearn*. There is no remarkable place but *Mauleon* of *Soule*, which is its chief Town; called by the *Latins* *Malleo Oppidum*, or *Castrum*, and is seated in the heart of it: It's the birth place of *Henry Sponde* Bishop of *Pamiez*, who has continued the *Annals of Baronium*.

of



## Of Bearn.

**B E A R N**, or *Benearnensis pagus*, with the Title of Principality, lies near the Pyrenees, bordering on the County of Bigorre to the East, Lower Armagnac to the North, the Precincts of the Provost of Aqys, Lower Navarre, and the Viscounty of Soule to the West, and the Mountains of Arragon and Roncal to the South. The chief Town of this Province is Pau; the other most remarkable are *Benearnum*, now *Lescar*, *Lascarris*, *Oleron Iluro*, *Nay*, *Ourtes*, or *Ourtez*, *Navarreins*, *Mortane*, *Sauveterre*, *Pontac*, *Sandere*, *Salies*, and 434 Burroughs or Villages, 2 Bishopricks and 3 Abbeys. It lies betwixt 42 Deg. 50 Min. and 43 Deg. 40 Min. Latitude, and between 18 Deg. 50 Min. and 20 Deg. of Longitude; its greatest strength East and West being about 22 Leagues, and 20 North and South. There are two Principal Rivers called *Gave*, ~~one has its source in the Mountains of Baxeges~~ in *Bigorre*, and is called the *Gave of Bearn*, and the other is that of *Oleron*, which is a compound of the *Gave of Alpe* and *Ossau*, it has its source in the highest part of the *Pyrenees*, where *Bearn* is divided from *Spain*; these Rivers are not navigable, but the plenty of Fish they afford, makes amends for it; from the highest Mountain of *Ossau*, one may see both the Seas and



the Mountains of *Castile*. The Soil is rendred fruitful, only by the labour and industry of the Inhabitants. By the care and piety of *Jane* Queen of *Navarre*, this Province and her other Countries embrac'd the Reformation; So that after the reconciliation of *Henry* the Great her Son to the Church of *Rome*, the Sovereign Court of *PAU* petition'd the King, who would re-establish the exercise of the *Roman* Religion in their Country, that the Jesuits might be excluded from it, which was granted to them, and observed from the year 1599 to 1620, that *Lewis* XIII. repealed this Edict against his Fathers Murtherers. In 1684. *Lewis* XIV. forced the *Bearnois* with Dragoons to abjure that Holy Religion they had profest almost an Age.

The City of *PAU* upon the *Gave* of *PAU*, or *Bearn*, with a Parliament, is pretty large and well built, and the native Place of *Henry* the Great; there is also a Court of Accounts, and a College of Jesuits: *PAU* lies 27 Leagues South East of *Bayonne*.



## Of the County of Bigorre.

**T**HE County of *BIGORRE*, *Bigerrones*, or *Bigerri*, borders upon *Armagnac* to the North and East, on *Bearn* to the West, and part of *Arragon* to the South. Its length North and South from the *Pyrenees* to *Marbouquet* is above 22 Leagues, its largest breadth East-West 14, and in some places but 3 or 4 Leagues. It is divided into three parts, viz. the Mountains, the Plain, and the *Rustan*: The first contains two Principal Valleys, that of *Lavedan*, the other of *Barege*; the Plain is 5 Leagues long, and 1 broad: The *Rustan* has some little Hills along the River *Arroz*. The Mountains are like a rail betwixt *France* and *Spain*; there are four narrow and difficult passages, viz. *Azun*, *Canteres*, *Barege*, and *Campan*, which the Inhabitants are obliged to keep. This Country yields a great deal of *Jasp* and *Slate*; the Mountains have *Silver*, *Iron*, *Copper*, and *Lead* Mines, but they are not digg'd out. There are 3 Lakes, and 4 Principal Rivers, viz. *Adour*, *Eschez*, *Arroz*, and *Lavedan*, which is composed of the *Gaves* of *Barege*, *Canteres*, and *Azun*. *Ene-co Arista* was in possession of this County in 828. before he founded the Kingdom of *Navarre*, and after many changes and revolutions

Henry



Henry IV. annexed it to the Crown by an Edict in the Month October 1607.

The most remarkable places are, Tarbe Bish. Vic de Bigorre, Lourde, Campan, Rabasteins, Bagneres, Luz, Cauterres, &c.

The City of TARBE, or Turba, or Tarvia, lies upon the Adour, 10 Leagues East of Pau, it's a plentiful Country with a Bishop Suffragan of Auch, and a Seneschal, the Cathedral is under the name of our Lady. Lourde, has a good strong Castle; Benac is a Dutchy; Bagnere is famous for its Waters.

of



## of Comminge.

**C** O M M I N G E, *Pagus Convenicus*, lies between *Languedoc* and *Conserans* on the East, *Armagnac* on the North, the County of *Bigorre* on the West, and the *Pyrenees* on the South. It is divided into upper, properly *Comminge*; and into Lower, or the Diocese of *Lombez*. This Country has had its own particular Counts before, it was annexed to the French Crown: It is pretty plentiful in Wheat, Oates, Wines, Pastures, Fruits, and especially Walnuts, which yield great quantity of Oyl; it also abounds in all sorts of Fowl.

The most remarkable places are, *S. Bertrand* of *Comminge* Bish. *Lombez* Bish. *Montpezat*, *Rieume*, *Muret*, *S. Beat*, *Bagneres*, *S. Gaudens*, *L'Ile Dodon*, &c.

The City of *S. BERTRAND* of *Comminge*, or *Convene*, or *Lugdunum Convenarum*, lies upon the *Garonne*, 14 Leagues South-East of *Tarbe*, with a Bishoprick Suffragan of *Auscb*, and a Royal Court of Justice, under the Seneschal and Parliament of *Toulouse*, the Bishop Seat is in the States of *Languedoc*.

*Lombez*, is one of the Bishopricks created by Pope *John XXII.* in 1317. It's Suffragan to *Toulouse*, from which it is distant above 12 Leagues to the South-West, and 12 North of *S. Ber-*



*S. Bertrand de Comminge.* It's seated upon the *Save*, in a very fruitful Soil, bounded on one side with Hills, covered with Vineyards, and on the other with Plains, abundant in Corn and Hay.

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## Of Conserans.

**C**OSERANS or Conserans, *Pagus Consaranensis*, lies on the South of *Comminge*, properly so called, between *Languedoc* and the *Pyrenees*; 'tis a Viscounty, which is thought to have been possessed by *Arnold of Spain*, under the Title of a County, whence the House of *Montespan*, derives its Original. After that it went over to the Counts of *Carcassonne*, and from thence to the Kings of *Navarre*. The chief place is, *S. LIZER* of Conserans upon the River *Salat*, 13 Miles East of *S. Bertrand de Comminge*, with a Bishoprick Suffragan of *Ausche*, and a Royal Court of Justice, under the Parliament of *Toulouse*. It is divided in two, *viz.* City and Town; the first is properly *Coserans*, with the Concathedral *Notre-Dame*; and the other is *S. Lizier*, where is also the other Concathedral of the same name; the Chapter consists of 12 Canons, of which the first is Archdeacon; of two Sextons, two Precentors, and one Almoner, of 24 Priests Prebendaries, with a Parson in each of these two Churches, where the Service



vice is perform'd at the same time. *Conserans* is said to be properly the Episcopal Sec, and that *Valerius* was its first Bishop, and *S. Lizier* *Glycerius* the Fifth. The other places of some note are *S. Julian*, *Cazeres*, *Bonpau*, *S. Giron*, *La Cour*, *Castillon*.

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CHAP.

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## C H A P. XIII.

## Of Languedoc.

**T**His Government is separated from *Provence* and *Dauphiné* by the River *Rhone* on the East; it borders upon *Auvergne*, *Rovergue* and *Quercy* on the North; on the West and South-West the *Garonne*, and some Mountains divide it from *Gascony* and *Catalogne*, and on the South it has the *Mediterranean Sea*. It is the first Province which the *Romans* conquered after *Provence*, and the *Allobroges*. In *Cesar's* time, *Narbonne*, one of the Capital Cities of this Government gave its name to *Languedoc*, *Provence*, *Dauphiné* and *Savoy*; but *Augustus* divided it into two Provinces, the *Viennoise* and *Narbonnoise*, and this last was again subdivided into two, whereof the first is our *Languedoc*. Before *Cesar*, the Inhabitants were called *Volci*, and subdivided into two powerful Nations, viz. The *Volce Tectosages*, who possess the Western or Upper *Languedoc*, from the *Garonne*, and the *Pyrenees* to the *Cevennes* and the *Mediterranean Sea*; and the *Volce Arcomici*, who



who enjoy'd Eastern or Lower *Languedoc*, from these Mountains and Sea to the *Rhone*. About the end of the 6th. Century, it began to be called *Septimania* from its 7 Capital Cities, viz. *Tolosa*, *Toulouse*, *Biterre*, *Beziers*, *Nemausus*, *Nîmes*, *Agatha*, *Agde*, *Magalona*, *Maguelonne*, *Leuteva*, *Lodeve*, *Uccia*, *Uzès*. By the Treason of *Stilicon*, the Romans were forced to yield to the *Goths*, all the first *Narbonnoise*, *Catalogne*, and a good part of *Navarre* and *Aragon*, where they settled themselves, and established the Kingdom of the *Visigoths*. It seems it is they who gave to the first *Narbonnoise*, the name of *Septimania*; and so jealous they were of that Title, that having lost by the Battel of *Vouillé* (where their King *Alaric* was killed by *Clovis* in 507. the Towns of *Toulouse* and *Uzès*, they supplied that number by the addition of *Narbonne* and *Carcassonne*.

The *Visigoths* enjoyed *Septimania* above 250 years, which is the cause that it is sometimes call'd by the *Latin* Authors of the middle Age *Gothia*: Thence some derive the modern name of *Languedoc*, as tho it were said for *Langue de Goth*, or *Langue-Goth*, but this Etymology does neither agree with the spelling of *Languedoc*, nor with the appellation of *Occitania* and *Lingua Occitana*, which the said Authors give it: And therefore I more approve of those who observe that the *French* have been distinguished, time out of mind into *Langue D'Ouy* and *Langue D'Oc*, that is in such as say *Ouy*, and such as say *Oc* for *Yes*, the first living on this side, and the second on that side of the *Loire*. In process of time the Surname of *Langue D'Oc* was



was appropriated to *Septimania*, wherein it is more general to say *Oc* for *Tes*, than any where else.

The French having expell'd the *Goths* beyond the *Pyrenees*, *Charlemaign* established Governors in *Languedoc* with the Title of Counts of *Toulouse*; of whom the first was one *Corson* in 778. The second was *St. William du Court-Nez*, or *Aux Cornets*, whence the Princes of *Orange* derive their pedigree, as may be infered from the hunting horn they bear in their Arms. This *William*, who lived about the year 790, founded the Abbey of *St. William the Desert*, in the Dioceses of *Lodève*; wherein he took the Habit of Monk: After his death or retirement the State of *Languedoc* was very much troubled by the quarrels of the several pretenders, who making use of the weakness of the French Kings, endeavour'd to erect their Governments into Sovereign Principalities. *Raimond-Pons* Count of *Toulouse* in 907. made himself Proprietary of the Dutchy of *Septimania*, or Marquisate of *Gothia*; but not being able to subdue some particular Governours, as the Counts of *Carassonne*, *Melgueil* and *Foix*; the Viscounts of *Narbonne*, *Besiers*, *Agde*, *Nismes*, *Lodève*, *Uzès*, &c. who formerly depended on the Dukes of *Septimania*; and would now become Sovereigns as well as themselves; the Counts of *Toulouse* allow'd them to enjoy their Usurpations. In the mean while they acquired by Marriage, Inheritance, or War, the Counties of *Querci*, *Perigord*, *Albi*, the *Agenois*, the *Milhand*, the *Gevaudan*, the County *Venaissin*, *Melgueil*, *Astéras*; nay they were sometime Marqueses of

Pro.



Provence, & as in 1235, and in that quality made homage to the Emperor. These Lords being so powerful, the French Kings were glad to make them the first Counts and Peers of their Kingdom, that by this Title of honour, they should be drawn to stick the closer to the French Interest. However this House remain'd not long in its lustre, for *Raimond* the 6th, surnamed the *Old*, maintaining the persecuted *Albigens*, as his Subjects, the fourth Council of *Lateran* excommunicated him, and gave his Estate to *Simon* Count of *Montfort*, in 1215. *Amauri* Son to *Simon*, dead in 1218, not being able to keep the unlawful Conquests of his Father, yielded them to the French K. *Lewis* the VIIIth. in 1224. *Raimond* the 6th. was dead two years before in 1222, and his Son *Raimond* the 7th. or the *Young*, perceiving that he could not withstand the whole power of *Papery*, thought best to reconcile himself to the Church of *Rome*, as he did in 1228. At the same time he made a Treaty with K. *Lewis* the VIIIth, by which he betrothed *Jane* his only Daughter to *Alfonse* of *Poitiers* the King's Brother, upon condition that if they happened to dye without Issue; the States of the Counts of *Toulouse* should fall to the Crown of *France*; they both died without Children in the Month of *August* 1271, upon which, King *Philip* the *Bold* took possession of their Dominions; and in 1361. King *John* reunited this Country to the Crown of *France* by his Patent Letters, which were confirmed in

• *Godefrid. Annal.*



in an Assembly of the General States of that Province.

These States, the only ones that have yet any shadow of power, are made up of the 3 Orders of a Kingdom, namely the Clergy, the Nobility and the People; the Clergy is represented by the 22 Prelates of that Province, whereof 3 are Archbishops, and 19 Bishops; the Nobility Votes there by the Mouth of 22 Barons of the following Families, 1. Rieux, 2. Mirep ix, 3. Florenfac, 4. Vauvert, 5. Castelnau d'Estrete Fons, 6. Capendu, 7. Haute-rive, 8. Confolens, 9. St. Felix, 10. Ville, Neuve 11. la Gardiole, 12. Lanta, 13. Alais, 14. Polignac, 15. Clermont, 16. Arques, 17. Carvisson, 18. Ganges, 19. Castries, 20. Castelnau de Bonnefons, 21. Ambres, 22. Ferrals. The People speaks in the Persons of 22 Consuls or Sheriffs, deputed out of the 22 Bishopricks. The Archbishop of Narbonne is President born of that Assembly, which is seldom called for any thing else, but to give the King money, by laying besides the ordinary Taxes an extraordinary and heavy imposition, under the name of *Don-gratuit*, or free Gift.

*Languedoc*, lies between 21 Deg. 15 Min. and 26 Deg. 10 Min. of Longitude, 41 Deg. 45 Min. and 45 Deg. of Latitude: It reaches 23 Leagues East and West from *Beaucaire* upon the *Rhone* to *Rieux* upon the *Garonne*, or 79 from *Crussol* upon the *Rhone* over against *Valence* in *Dauphine* to *Castel-Sarasin* on the *Garonne*, in the Diocese of *Montauban*. Its extent North and South is still more unequal from *Moissac* in *Quercy* to *Lavel Coronat* in the County of *Foix*, it is of 40 Leagues, of 53 from *La Garde Biau* on the Borders



Borders of *Rouergue* to beyond *Prat de Mollo* in *Roussillon*, and 50 from *Serrieres* in *Vivarais* to beyond *Fort de Peccais* near *Aigues-mortes* in the Diocese of *Nismes*. It is one of the most fruitful and healthful Provinces of *France*, divided into Upper and Lower *Languedoc*, and the *Cevennes*. The first comprehends the *Toulousan*, the *Albigeois*, the *Lauragais* and the County of *Foix*: The second is distinguish'd into 3 Precincts or *Quartiers*, that of *Narbonne*, of *Beziers* and of *Nimes*; the *Cevennes* are subdivided into 3 Countries, *Gevaudan*, *Vivarais*, and *Velay*.

Both parts of *Languedoc* produce great quantity of *Corn*, that they use to carry into *Spain* and *Italy*; their *Wines* are delicious, and their *Fruits* most esteem'd, especially pickled *Olives* and *Raisins*. Their *Salt-pits* and *Dyers-wood* make up a considerable Trade, besides *Azure*, *Saffron*, *Verdigrease*, *Vermilion* or artificial *Cinoper*, *Sope*, *Glasses*, *Box-trees*, and several *Simples* and *Plants* that are transported thence. The *Air* is so wholesome, that it is thought a specifick remedy against consumptions, chiefly about *Montpellier*, which temperature of the *Heavens* contributes not a little to make *Women* comely, and *Men* ingenious, as appears by the great number of *Poets*, either in *French*, *Latin*, or the *Country-Language*, and by some good *Historians* *Languedoc* has produc'd. *Women*, tho as honest here as in any other part of *France*, use a freedom of accosting *Strangers* (especially in *Montpellier* and *Nismes*) which would be thought immodesty elsewhere, but goes here under the name of gentleness, and good



good manners. This Province feeds abundance of Sheeps, Goats, and Herds of Cattle, of Fowls and Beasts of Game; for though there be few Forrests in the Plains, yet besides, that all the North, North-East, and South-West is cover'd with Mountains, there is a Chain of them that crosses the Country from the Pyrenees to the Cevennes.

What conduces most to the fertility of *Languedoc* are the many Rivers that water it; for besides the *Rhone* on the East, and the *Garonne* on the West, it has the *Doune*, that rises near *Bourg-Argental* in the *Velay*, washes *Annonay*, and falls into the *Rhone* between *Andance* and *S. Val-lier*. The *Douze* rises in the *Cevennes*, and mixes with the *Rhone* at *Tournon*. The *Eyrieu* comes from the same Mountains, receives the *Dorie* at *le Cheylars*, the *Gleure* and the *Orene*, at *les Oul-lieres*, goes by *S. Fortunat*, and discharges it self into the *Rhone*, between *Beauchastel* and *la Vouste*. The *Scoutay* runs into the same Ri-ver at *Viviers*. The *Ardesche* is more confide-rable than the former; it rises likewise in the *Cevennes* near *Montpezat*, receives the *Volane* and *Bruens* near *Vals*, washes *Aubenas* and *Vanguel*, then increas'd with the *Lende*, *Beanne* and *Chas-sezat* goes by *Salavas*, *Ayguese*, and runs into the *Rhone* between *Bourg S. Andiol* and *Pont S. Esprit*. The *Ceze* takes its source from Mount *Lazere*, washes *Ambroise*, *Moncens*, *Cornillon*, *Bag-nols*, and falls into the *Rhone* at *Condonles*, 5 Miles West of *Orange*. A mile lower is the Mouth of the *Tave*, that goes by *Couvillargues* and *Lo-dun*. The *Gardon* or *Guard*, *Vardo* is made up of two Brooks both rising in the same Moun-tains;



tains; the most easterly is call'd *le Gardon d'Alain*, and the most westerly *le Gardon d'Anduse* from two Towns of that name which they go by; then uniting at *Cassagno'e* and increas'd with some small Brooks, as the *Droude*, the *Braume*, the *Aysene* that comes from *Uzès* and receives the *Alzon*, they pass under the famous *Pont du Guard*, and fall into the *Rhone*, near the Island *Valabregue*, and the Town of *Beaucaire*. The *Vistre* or the River *Nimes Nemausus* as *Ausone* calls it, rises at the foot of a Hill near the Walls of that City, and increas'd with a Rivulet coming from some Mountains near *Ledenon* 3 Leagues Northwards, washes *Bernis*, *Vauvert*, *Aymargues*, *La Caila*, and discharges its Waters into the Pond call'd *Laterna* or *Taurus Palus l'Etang du Tau*, between *Aignes-mortes* and the Island *Maquelonne*. The same Pond, which reaches 18 Leagues East and West along the Mediterranean Coast, and has communication with that Sea by *Grav du Roy* and *Grav de Palavas*, receives 8 or 9 other Rivers, among which the most considerable is the *Vidourle*, that rises in the *Cevennes*, goes by *S. Hippolite*, *Sauve*, *Quissac*, *Ville-vieille*, *Sommieres*, *Marsiliargues*, and has its mouth but a League West of that of the *Vistre*. The *Berenge*, the *Cadoule*, the *Sahnon*, the *Lez*, or the River of *Montpellier*, the *Caulazon* increas'd with the *Lamousson*, the *Laverne*, and the *Palae* deserve hardly to be nam'd. The *Erant*, *Arauris* or *Cyrta*, rises in the Mountains of *Gevaudan*, where it is increas'd with the *Arré*, washes *Ganges*, *S. Bauxely*, receives the *Vu* near *Brisac*, and the *Buege* near *Pont S. Esteve*, goes by *S. Guillem le Desert*, *S. Jean de For* and *Canet*,



Canet, where it mixes with the Lergue, increas'd by the Solondre, receives the *Peyne* at *Pezenas*, the *Touque* at *S. Tubery*, lets out a branch to *Florensac*, and another above *Agde*, below which its greatest Mouth mixes with the Mediterranean Sea. A League Westwards is that of the River *Lerron*, and 2 Leagues farther that of *Orbe*, which rises in the Diocese of *Castres* near a Village call'd *Cellies de Languedoc*, receives the *Vicoujan* and the *Mare* at *Bec de Rioux*, washes *Colombiers*, *la Voute*, where it is increas'd with the *Jaur*, and the *Vezenobre* at *Cessenox*, goes by *Beziers*, *Ville-neuve-la-Cremade*, and falls into the same Sea near *Serignan*. The *Aude*, *Atax*, comes from the *Pyrenees*, washes *Alet*, *Limoux*, and *Carcassonne*, where it is increas'd with several Rivulets join'd together as the *Fresquel*, the *Vernassone*, the *Alzon*, and having received the *Urviel* and the *Orbien*, separates into two Branches, three Miles above *Narbonne*, whereof the least being increas'd with the River *Cesse* runs into the *Grav* of *Vendres*, and the biggest pursuing its course towards *Narbonne* falls into the Pond of *La Robine*, *Rubresus* or *Rubrensis Lacus*. The *Ariege* or *Auriege*, *Arcia* and *Aregia* rises in the *Pyrenees*, washes *Aqs*, *Tarascon*, *S. Paul*, *Foix*, *Barilles*, *Pamiers*, *Sabaudin*, where it receives the *Lers*, that comes from the same Mountains, goes through the Town and Dioceses of *Mirepoix*, and is increas'd in his way with the *Lambrone* at *Chalabre*, the *Doudbui* at *Rien-croix*, and the *Bosegue* at *Belpuech*, then joyn'd with the *Gabelle*, they go by *Cintegabelle*, *Haute-rive*, *Lezat*, where they receive the *Leze*, and unite with the *Garonne* at *Portet*, 5 Miles South of



of *Toulouse*. The *Little* or *Petit Lers* issues from a Mountain near *Castelnaudary*, goes by *Gardoux*, *Montesquion*, *Baziegue*, *Mongisear*, receives the *Marquessone*, the *Sone*, the *Seillonne*, the *Giron*; and falls into the *Garonne* near *S. Jari*, 7 Miles North of *Toulouse*. The *Agout*, *Agosta* rises in the Diocese of *S. Pons de Tomieres*, and being increased with the *Gigeou*, and some other Rivulets, washes *Castres*, receives the *Durenque* and the *Thorot* near it, goes by *S. Pol*, *Lavaur*, and somewhat lower the *Agros*, increas'd with the *Denat*, *Oubas* and *Dadou*, discharges its waters into it; then they mix together with the *Tarn*, *Tarnis* at *S. Sulpice*. The *Tarn* descends from Mount *Lasere*, in *Gevaudan*, passes by *Montwert*, *Espagnac*, *Queffis*, *S. Eremie*, *S. Chely du Tarn*, *Peyrebeau*, where it receives the *Jante*, and the *Trevezel*, with the *Dourbie* at *Milhand*, the *Cernon* between *S. George* and *Compreignac*, the *Sergue*, that goes through *S. Fricque* and *Vabres* at *Brougnies*, the *Dordon* hard by, the *Alrance* at *Trebas*, then washes *Alby*, *Gaillac*, *Rabastens*, *Villemur*, *Montauban*, mixes with the *Aveyron* near *l'Isle-made*, with the *Lute* and *Lemboulas* near *Moissac*, and runs into the *Garonne*, between this Town and *S. Nicolas*.

Here is, methinks, the proper place to speak of that Master-piece of Work; the *Canal of Languedoc*. The design was to convey Merchandizes from one Sea into another, a very useful undertaking, if it might be compleatly performed. It was begun in 1666 by Mr. *Riquet*, and the first Essay was made by his Sons in 1681. One would think, that it was not a very hard task, since the source of the little *Lers*, is



not above two Leagues from the *Fresnel*, that mixes with the *Aude* 3 or 4 Miles farther, and that there are Torrents and Rivers round about, whose course might easily be turn'd, to increase the *Aude* with them, and render it navigable; besides the Snow-water of the neighbouring Mountains, that might be spar'd in Reservoirs, Ponds, and Sluces. None of these things has been forgotten, for a canal has been digg'd of 127600 *Toises*, which make above 63 common Leagues of *France*, in length, upon 30 foot or 5 *Toises* in breadth every where. There are several surprising works, as the Reservoir of *S. Ferreol*, which has above 2000 *Toises* in Circuit, and is 50 Foot deep in some places. It's used to receive, and to keep the Waters of the *black Mountain*, which are detain'd there, by a Causey and 3 strong Walls. These Waters fall into the Bason of *Naurouse*, which is 200 *Toises* long, and 150 broad, and lin'd all over with Free-stone. This Bason is digg'd in the highest place of the Canal, so that the included Waters may be let loose on both sides, and go each a contrary way. The Bridge of the Torrent *Repudre* is also considerable by the novelty of its use, for while Boats somewhat large row over this Bridge, which is 70 *Toises* long, built with Free-stone, and cover'd every where with 7 Foot of Water, the Rivulet runs under the Bridge. The Vault of *Malpas* is yet more surprising, for it is a Rock pierced through, to give way to the Waters, that has eighty *Toises* in length, four in breadth and four and a half in height, and on both sides is a rais'd way to draw on the Boats.



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## Of Toulousan.

**T**His Country included between the Rivers Aveyron, Garonne, and Arriege, the County of Foix and Albigeois is 26 Leagues North and South, but hardly 10 or 12 East and West : It contains the Diocese of Toulouse, Montauban, La Vaur and S. Papoul, or the Country of L' Aurgais, of which I shall speak in the same order.

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## Of the Diocese of Toulouse.

THE ancient Inhabitants of *Toulouse*, the *Volce Tectosages* filled up a far greater Country than this Diocese, and even the *Toulousan*; for their Dominions reached as far as the Northern end of the *Cevennes*; they confin'd to the very *Santones* or *Saintonge*, if we believe *Cesar*, and had the Mediterranean Sea, and the *Pyrenees* on the South. Their Territory abounded with Gold, which having raised a sedition amongst 'em, such as prov'd the weakest went in search of a new Land under the Conduct of *Brennus*, and having landed in *Phrygia*, conquered the best part of it, which afterwards was call'd from them *Galatia* and *Gallogracia*. But a difference arising about the division of their Conquests, 20000 parted from *Brennus*, and went back to *Thracia* now *Romania*, headed by two of their Kings *Lomnorus* and *Latatius*. These were as successful as their Confederates, for they overcame such as withstood them, made the others their Tributaries, and took *Byzanice* now *Constantinople*, the chief Town of that Country. Some time after, hearing of the riches of *Asia*, they pass'd the *Hellespont* or Streights of *Gallipoli*; and taking hold of a Civil War, be-

*Tit. Liv. l. 38.*

twist



twixt *Nicomedes* and *Zybaa*, who disputed the Kingdom of *Bithynia*, they assisted the first, who remained victorious by their help, then pursuing their Conquests farther into *Asia*, tho from 20000 they were reduced to 10000, yet they brought such a terrour upon the neighbouring Nations, even beyond Mount *Taurus*, that they all submitted to their Empire. As they were issued from three Gaulish Nations, \* *Trocmi*, *Tolistobogii* and *Tectosagi*; so they divided Less *Asia* into 3 parts, the *Trocmi* had the Borders of the *Hellespont*, the *Tolistobogii* *Æolis* & *Ionia*, and the *Tectosagi* the inland Country, taking *Ancyra* for the Seat of their Kingdom. These became so powerful, that they put even the Kings of *Syria* under contribution, and remain'd in that State, till they were overcome by a Roman Consul *Cneus Manlius Vulso* in 565. of *Rome*.

*Protony* ascribes eight Capital Cities to the Gaulish *Tectosages*, viz. *Toulouse*, *Collioure* or *Il-liberis*, *Roussillon* or *Ruscino*, *Narbonne*, *Carcassonne*, *Beziers*, *Cessero*, esteem'd by some *Castres*, and by other *S. Tubery*, and *Agde* or *Agatha*. Speaking of *Languedoc*, I have observed the several changes of Masters and Governments, which *Toulouse* as the head of this Province has

\* The two first are unknown: it seems they were neighbours or a branch of the *Tectosagi*, who perhaps after their departure serz'd upon their Country, and thus came the name of both to be lost. It may be that they liv'd in the Diocese of *Alby*, for the *Albigois*, *Albienses*, are not mention'd by any ancient Geographer.



undergone, so that I have but to mention, that even long after the *French* had conquer'd all *Septimania*, as under the Reign of *Lewis* the Meek, the *Toulousan*, *Pagus Tolosanus*, made up a distinct Country, as having been in the *French* hands long before the rest of *Septimania*.

*Toulouse*, and its Latin name *Tolosa* are very ancient, for *Cesar* makes mention of the *Tolofates*; but the time of its foundation is altogether uncertain: for those who ascribe it to one *Tolus*, Grand-child to *Japhet* are fabulous Authors. As it came early under the domination of the *Romans*; so they pleased themselves in beautifying it with several stately Buildings, as a Palace, an Amphitheater, and a Capitole, which last honour they made common with *Rome* to two other Towns only, viz. *Narbonne*, and new *Carthage* or *Carthagera*; but there are no remains of any of 'em. All what we know of that of *Toulouse*, is, that it was dedicated to *Jupiter*, built in a very high place, and still in being in the middle of the XIII Century, but made use of as a Town-house; for the Senators or Magistrates assembled there in Council, as *Peter Maurice* Abbot of *Cluny* relates in a Letter against the *Petrobrusians*. Thence probably it is, that the Sheriffs of this City are yet call'd *Capitouls*. Anciently they were 24 in number, who were reduced to 12 under *Alfonse* of *Poitiers*, last Count of *Toulouse* 6 for the City, and as many for the Burrough, and again to 4, and then to 6 in 1390. by an Edict of the *French* King *Charles VI.* to which two others were added 1392, 5 for the City, and 3 for the Burrough. In 1401, they were increased to 12,  
8 for



8 for the City, and 4 for the Burrough, but in the very same year they were again reduc'd to 8, and 2 only left to the Burrough, which division has ever since subsisted.

*Aulu-Gellius* relates, that *Q. Servilius Cepas* a Roman Consul, having taken and plunder'd *Toulouse* in 648 of Rome, found a great quantity of Gold in its Temples, but that all those who were partakers of this Booty, came to a Tragical end. For *Orosius* says, that he sent this Treasure to *Marseille*, but caus'd all the Leaders to be put to death in the way, that he alone might enjoy it; which perfidious cruelty so incens'd the Romans against him; already irrag'd at his having been defeated by the *Cimbres*, that they confiscated his Goods, and bought Lands of it for the People. As for him he dy'd most miserably in Exile, whence came the Proverb *haber aurum Telosamen*; he has of *Toulouse's* Gold, said of such whose riches did not prosper. *Valerius Maximus* assures, that this Booty was found in Marshes, and consisted in Wedges of Gold and Silver 15000 Talents worth; *Orosius* fixes it to the value of 100000 Pound in Gold, and 110000 in Silver; but *Justin* increases it to 110000 Pound of Gold, and 500000 of Silver; and adds, that it was the plunder which the *Teliosages* brought home from the expedition of *Delphos*; which last account is altogether fabulous, since such of the *Teliosages*, who went into Greece and Asia, never returned back to their own Country, having either been kill'd or settled themselves there, as *Polybius*, *Pausanias*, *Livy*, and all the ancient Authors testify. So that the matter of fact is



true, viz. that there was a vast quantity of Gold and Silver, in, or about *Toulouse*, which was taken away by *Cepio*, but it remains doubtful whence it came; whether it had been extracted out of Mines they had in their Country, or gathered up through the course of many years by this industrious and warlike People, averie to Luxury and Expences, as *Valerius Maximus* qualifies them.

*Toulouse* has twice had the honour to be the head of a Kingdom, under the *Wisigoths* before *Clovis*, and under *Charibert*, to whom *Dagobert* his Brother King of *France*, yielded the *Tolosan*, *Quercy*, *Agenois*, *Perigord*, *Saintonge* and *Gascony*. As to the State of the Church, though the Cathedral be dedicated under the name of *S. Stephen*; yet *S. Saturnin* is thought to have been the first Bishop of it in the second Age, and to have been precipitated by the Heathens headlong the Capitole. Pope *John XXII.* erected this City into an Archbishoprick in 1317. and submitted to it the Bishoprick of *Pamiez*, with six Monasteries that he chang'd into Episcopal Sees, viz. *Montauban*, *Rieux*, *Mirepoix*, *la Vaur*, *Lombez*, and *S. Papoul*, of which the 3 last were formerly included within this Diocese.

The Parliament of *Toulouse* was instituted by the French King *Philip the Fair*, in 1302, and made sedentary by *Charles VII.* in 1442, or 1443, who subjected to it, all Upper and Lower *Languedoc*, and the 3 Countries of the *Gevennes*, besides some part of *Guyenne* and *Gascony*, as *Quercy*, *Rouergue*, *Cominges*, *Gaure*, *Armagnac*, *Estrac*, *Lomaigne*, *Magnoac* and *Bigorre*. This, if



if we believe *Du Chesne*, was occasioned by a difference between the King and *Matthew of Foix*, Count of *Chastelbon*, Husband to *Jane* Daughter to the Earl of *Cominges* and *Boulogne*. The French Monarch pretended to be Heir to that Lady, and on that account he summoned them both to appear before his Parliament of *Toulouse* in 1442, and at the same time fixed the e the Seat of that Sovereign Court.

Besides the Parliament, there is an Office of Chancery, a Seneschalship and Presidial, whose Chief justice is call'd *Juge-Mage*, a *Viguery*, that is the same Court, which on this side the *Loire* is call'd *Prevoté* or *Provostship*; General Treasurers, and a Receiver General of the King's *Demesne*. Add to this the Court of the *Capitoul's*, who judg of all such things as belong to *Police* or the City Government; as appears by that they have lately condemned \* a pretended *Hermaphrodite*, but a real Woman, born in 1669, and call'd *Margaret Mallaure*, to be from henceforth cloath'd as a Man, and to bear the name of *Antony Mallaure*; because when she became 14 years of Age, it was given out, that she had more of the Man than of the Woman. This young Maid thus disguised against her will, came to *Paris* last Winter 1693, where the Physicians of that great City, more learn'd than those of *Toulouse*, discovered that it was but a sort of broken Belly, and having cur'd her of that Disease: She presented a Petition to the French King, in order to reverse the Sentence of the

\* See the *Journal des Savans* Dec. 22. 1692.  
This happen'd on the 21 of July 1691.



Capitouls against her, and to restore her to her natural Cloaths and Fame; which was granted.

The University for Civil and Canon Law was instituted by Raimond VII. Count of Toulouse, and endow'd with many fine Privileges by Pope John XXII. and by Innocent VI. who founded the College of S. Martial; the others as that of Foix, Narbonne, Maguelonne, Pampelune, Perigord, Ste. Catherine, and Mirepoix have been founded by several Prelates and Noblemen.

Toulouse will not yield to any City in France for bigness, magnificence or the number of Inhabitants, and 'tis not of late that it is grown so considerable, for in the fourth Century, Ausonius bestows on it the following Elegy.

*Non unquam altricem nostri reticebo Tolosam,  
Cœclilibus Muris, quam circuit ambitus ingens,  
Perque latus pulchro perlabitur anne Ga-  
rumna*

*Innumeris cultam populis; confinia propter  
Ninguida Pyrenes & pinca Cœbennarum,  
Inter Aquitanas Gentes & nomen Iberum:  
Quæ modo quadruplices ex se cum effuderit  
urbes,*

*Non ulla exhaustæ sentit dispendia plebis  
Quos genuit cunctos gremio complexa colonos.*

‘ I shall never forget Toulouse, wherein I have  
‘ been educated, whose large circuit is surroun-  
‘ ded with Brick-walls, and wash’d with the  
‘ fice River Garonne; which is inhabited by a  
‘ numberless People, whose Borders reach near  
‘ the Snow of the Pyrenees, and the Pine-trees  
‘ of the Cevennes, being seated between Aqu-  
‘ tain



‘rain and Spain; which, when four Cities  
 ‘shall flock out of it, it shall not feel the loss,  
 ‘nor be exhausted of People, if it but keep  
 ‘such Inhabitants as are born within its bo-  
 ‘som.

If this be the true sense, as it seems the most natural to me, *Toulouse* was doubtless one of the greatest Cities in the *Gaules*. *Adrian de Valois* pretends that these *quadruplices Urbes* are four Countries, which had *newly modo* been added to the *Toulousan*, but he neither names them, nor gives any proof for it. Besides that, the Poet does not speak, as he supposes, in an absolute sense, or say that *Toulouse* has but lately let out four Cities; on the contrary, his expressions are hypothetical, *cum effuderit*, that though it should happen so, however it would hardly feel the loss, provided it should keep *modo complexa fuerit*, its native Inhabitants.

The Romans used to solemnize *Floral Games*, at the beginning of *May*, in honour of the Goddess *Flora*, but accompany'd with very dishonest shews: Those that the *Toulousaans* still celebrate, under that name, and at the same time, are only attended with such circumstances as are most proper to stir up vertue and ingenuity. A President and 4 Counsellors of the High Court of Parliament, with the eight *Capitouls*, and the other Magistrates of the City, come in their Robes on the 1. of *May*, into the Council-hall, to hear the Poets recite their Verses; and on the 3d. day after a sumptuous Treat, and a Sonnet to be made immediately by the pretenders to the Prizes, who are included to that effect in a great Hall, these Prizes are distributed by



by the plurality of Votes. They are three in number, and consist in so many golden Flowers, each of the value of about 14 Pound; the first is a *Columbine*, call'd by the *French Ancolie*, and by the *Languedocians*, *Eglantine*; the second is a *Mary-gold*, and the third a *Violet*. The institution of those Games is variously reported; some ascribe it to a great Lady call'd *Clemence Isaure*, who bequeathed the greatest part of her Estate to the Town-house upon that account, and whose Statue of white Marble is yet to be seen in the great Hall; but the Registers of *Toulouse* attribute it to seven Noble-men in 1324. Howsoever it be, this Solemnity is not only laudable, but even worthy to be imitated by Princes, Commonwealths, and great Cities; for besides that it would give an honest diversion and emulation to the ingenious; it would be as a Touch-stone to know the several degrees and abilities of understanding Men; for extraordinary Poets are for the most part uncommon Genius's, and might successfully be employ'd in weightier undertakings.

*Toulouse* is divided into two parts by the River *Garonne*, and into 8 Wards in reference to its 8 *Capitouls*. The first is the *Daurade*, so call'd from a very ancient Church under the name of our Lady, that was formerly a Temple of the Sun. This Precinct comprehends several Churches, Monasteries and Colleges, the Pest-house, and the Suburb of *St. Cyprian* with the great Hospital of *St. James*.

The second Ward bears the name of *St. Stephen* the Metropolitan Church, built in a great Market, adorn'd with a fountain, upon which is rais'd



rais'd a fine *Obelisque*. In 1609. this Church was all burn'd except that part, which is call'd the *Cloyster*, and has still some Gothick Statues of half emboss'd work. It has since been rebuilt statelier than before, with a great and high Tower, wherein hangs the Bell *Ardailiac*, which is so very big that they dare not ring it, lest the Belfrey should fall; besides 14 vaulted Chappels round about the Quire: There are also the Archbishop's Palace, the Town-house or *Capitole*, adorn'd with the Pictures of the Entries of the French Kings within *Toulouse*, and of the *Capitouls* in their Robes, the Arsenal, the Chappels of the white and blew Penitents, with several Churches, Convents, and Colleges.

The *Old-Bridge* gives its name to the third Ward, and is but a coarse piece of Building, worthier of the *Goths* than of the *Romans*. The New-bridge which is far finer, doth hardly yield to that of *Paris*; and no wonder since it was begun in 1544, and but ended about the middle of this Age. In this Precinct are the Exchange, the Court of the Provost, and *Consuls* of Merchants, and the Cage wherein Blasphemers are included to be drown'd into the *Garonne*.

The fourth Ward, call'd *La Pierre*, or the *Stone*, has nothing considerable. The fifth takes its name from the Church *Dalbade*, enjoy'd by the Fathers of the *Oratory*, since the year 1620. There are besides the *Inquisition*; a place well known by the cruelties against the *Albigéois*, near which is a round Castle, esteem'd by *Du Chesne* to be a remainder of the ancient Capi-



Capitole; the Island *S. Antony* form'd by the *Garonne*, and inhabited by Handicraft-men.

The sixth Ward call'd *S. Pierre des Cuifines*, has among other Churches and Monasteries, that of the *Franciscans*, surnamed *Observantins*, which exceeds all the rest in bigness and sumptuosity, but is especially renowned for a *Cave*, which consumes Dead-bodies, without anointing the Skin, and displacing the Joynts. Here is the University, with the College of *Foix*, founded by *Peter* Cardinal of *Foix*, and endow'd with two Libraries, one of Mss. and the other of Printed Books, that of *Narbonne*, founded by *Gambert* Archbishop of *Arles* and *Narbonne* in 1342, that of *L'Equille*, begun in 1561, and ended 1608 at the expences of the Town, for teaching the *Hebrew*, *Greek*, and *Latin* Tongues. Here are also the Mills of the *Basacle*, whose Workmanship is esteem'd one of the greatest curiosities of *Toulouse*. This place, in *Latin* *Vadaculum*, that is small foord, gives likewise its name to a Bridge and a gate, hard by the Castle.

The seventh Ward call'd *S. Bartholomew*, has the *Castle Narbonnoise*, which was the ordinary Residence of the Counts of *Toulouse*, and a very strong place before *K. Charles VII.* Now it is the Palace of the Parliament, with the Hall of the Pleas, the Marble-Table, the Prisons call'd *Hauts-murats*, the Court of the Exchequer and the Mint, where Money is coyn'd and mark'd at the Letter M.

The eighth Ward, under the name of *S. Sernin* or *Saturnin*, an ancient Collegiate Church, defended by Guns at the top of it, so plac'd, that



that none of the many Pillars, which underprop the Building, can cover a Man from their Shot. This they do because of the great Treasure, that is included in this Church, for there are above 50. Silver-screens wash'd over with Gold, besides the Jewels and Church-ornaments. Here are the Tombs of the ancient Counts of *Toulouse*, of its Prelates and Nobility.

Five Miles North West of this City lies the Village or Lordship of *Pibrac*, which I mention here, for having giv'n its name to a *Toulousan* Gentleman, *Gui du Faur* Lord of *Pibrac*, President of the Parliament of *Paris*, and Ambassador of *France* to the Council of *Trent*, and then to *Poland*, under *Charles IX.* and *Hen. III.* He has left several loose Discourses and pieces of Poetry, but the most renown'd are his Moral Quatrains, which for their brevity, majesty, and if I may so speak, sententiousness, may still challenge the first place, among all which has been written in this kind by uninspired Men. It appears by several passages of this golden Book, that the Author was not at all addicted to the Superstitions of *Rome*, though he never publicly embraced the Reformation, no more than divers other Great and Learned Men of his time, who seem'd to approve of the Doctrine, but did not like the manner of propagating it.

Seven Miles South-west of *Toulouse* lies the Village of *Plaisance*, so call'd from the goodness of its Air, Soyl, and Situation. *Adrian de Valois* supposes it to be the *Vernus Sol* of *Æthicus*, but I rather take it for a place call'd *Vernuse*, which



which lies just 15 Italian Miles South-west of Toulouse, as the *Vernus Sol* of that Geographer.

I find nothing considerable of the other places of this Diocese, as *Montoriol*, *Vieille Toulouse*, *S. Jori*, *Columiers*, *Castel-moron*, *Ville-Longue*, *Ville-neuve*, *Montagut*, *Montgaillard*, *Verseuil*, *Lenta*, *Carmain*, with the title of a County.

### Of the Diocese of Montauban.

*Montauban*, *Mons Albanus*, is one of the 6 Bishopricks of Pope *John XXII*'s erection. It was formerly a Monastery founded by *Theodard* Archbishop of *Narbonne*, and when it was made a Cathedral, the Abbot *Bertrand du Puy* was the first Bishop of it. As to the Town, it was but at the beginning a very strong Castle, which in process of time increas'd into a considerable City by the fertility of its Soyl, and the conveniency of its Situation upon a Hill, and the Rivers *Tescounot* and *Tarn*, on the high way from *Toulouse* to *Limoges*, and thence to *Paris*. It was built or repair'd in 1144, and united to the French King's Domesne in 1171, to whom *Amaury* Count of *Montfort* yielded since his pretensions. *Montauban* is divided into three parts, the old Town along the *Tarn*, *Ville-Bourbon* on the other side of that River in *Languedoc*, which is joyn'd to the old Town by a brick Bridge. The new Town is



is towards *Cahors* : Thus both the Old and New Town are in the *Querci*, but the rest of the Diocese in *Languedoc* ; whence it comes, that its Bishops has right to sit in the Estates of both Provinces. The Protestants were Masters of *Montauban*, from 1562 to 1621, that it was taken from them by *Lew. XIII.* They had here an *Academy* or College for Languages and Divinity, and it was one of the surety's Towns, which *Henry IV.* yielded to them. But *Cardinal de Richelieu* designing to run down all the orders of the Realm, began by asking from the Protestants, to deliver their Towns of surety, which they justly denying ; *Montauban* was twice besieged in vain ; but at last discord creeping amongst 'em, and being betray'd by some great ones ; as the Duke of *Lesdiguières*, it was taken at the third Siege, and its strong Fortifications raz'd in 1629. *Montauban* has an Election and a generality of Treasurers, on which the Elections of *Cahors* and *Figeac* are depending. Between the City and the Suburb of *S. Antony* is a fine Fountain call'd *Griphon*, that has 10 Pipes, and furnishes all the Inhabitants with water. This Town prov'd the death of two of the most renowned Captains of the *French K. Char. VII.* during his Wars with the *English*.

The other places of some note in this Diocese, are *Castel-Sarrazin*, built in the time of *Charles Martel* to oppose the incursions of the *Sarracens*, *Montech*, *Frignan*, *Villemur*, where the *French King Henry the Great's* Forces got a signal Victory over the Leaguers, headed by the Duke of *Joyeuse*, who was drown'd in the *Tarn*, in 1592.

of



## *Of the Diocese of La Vaur.*

**L**A Vaur, which some spelt *Lavaur*, and others *L'Avaur*, *Vaurum Castrum*, is one of the new Suffragans of *Toulouse*, and lies six Leagues of *Languedoc*, or 8 of France Eastward of it, upon the River *Agout*. It was already a considerable Castle in the time of the *Albigois*, and depended upon the Bishops of *Toulouse*, one of whom, nam'd *Isarne* gave it to *Florard*, Abbot of *S. Pons de Tomieres*, on condition that he should found there a Priory of regular Canons of *S. Austin*, under the name of *S. Alain*, as also he did. This Monastery was afterwards erected into a Bishoprick in 1318, and *Roger of Armagnac* was its first Prelate. It contains 69 Parishes. In 1213, the Papists held there a Synod against *Peter of Arragon*, who maintain'd the *Albigois*.

*Puy-Laurens*, *Podium Laurentii*, that is the Mountain of *Laurence* is situated upon a Hill 9 Miles South-East of *La Vaur*, and 11 Leagues of *Toulouse*. It had formerly the Title of a Dutchy, and some years before the last Persecution of the Protestants, their Academy of *Montauban* had been transferr'd thither, both to make 'em uneasie, and to depress the luster of *Montauban*. However they had here of late  
a fa-



a famous Professor of Divinity ——— *Martel*, who answer'd the method of Cardinal de Richelieu. *William* of *Puy-Laurens*, Chaplain to *Raymond* the young Count of *Toulouse*, who has written a *Chronicle*, wherein he makes the History of the *Albigens*, was a Native of this Town. But this *Chronicle* is now extraordinary rare, the Papists having us'd all endeavours to suppress it, because he is too sincere in relating the Opinions and behaviour of these pretended Hereticks.

*Soreze*, *Soricinium*, or *Saricinium*, seems to have its name from the multitude of Mice *Sorices*, that infested the Country, according to *Adrian de Valois*, or rather from the small River *Sor*, upon which it lies 7 Leagues South of *La Vaur*. It has a very ancient Abbey of *S. Bennet's* Order, mention'd in a Decree of *Lewis the Meek*, as one of them that were bound to say Prayers for the Emperour's welfare.

The other most remarkable places in this Diocese are, *Viterbe Viterbium*, *S. Pol* separated from *Lamiate* another Town in *Albigens*, by the *Agout*, *Rocque-Vidal*, *Semalens*, *Vuviers*, *Souarx*, *la Brugere*, *Massagnet*, *Arsons*, *S. Alby*, *Mazamet*, *Aupontz* *Altus-pallus*.

Of



## Of Lauragais.

**T**H E Country of *Lauragais*, *Lauriacensis*, or *Lauracensis Pagus*, takes its name from the Village *Laurac Lauriacum*, near the source of the Little *Lers*, or according to others, who spell it *l' Auragnais* from the Town and Barony of *Auriac*, which is said to have been its Capital, and lies 8 Leagues South-East of *Toulouse*. In 1258, this Country belong'd to *James* King of *Arragon*, who yielded it to the *French* King *Lewis IX.* but in 1478, *Lewis XI.* erected it into a County, and gave it to *Bertrand* of *La Tour* Count of *Auvergne*. Afterwards it fell by Inheritance to *Catherine* of *Medicis* Wife to the *French* King *Henry II.* and then to *Queen Margaret* their Daughter, who made a gift of it to *Lewis XIII.* Dauphin of *France*, on condition that it should for ever remain united to the Crown.

*Lauragnais* abounds in *Pastel* or *Dyers-Wood*, which is the chief Trade of the Country; as likewise in quails better than those of *Italy*, in *July*, *August*, and *September*. *Castelnaudary*, *Castrum novum Arii*, upon the *Fresquel*, 12 Leagues South-East of *Toulouse* is accounted the Capital. It's situated in a fruitful Soyl, and the Manufacture of *Woolen-Cloaths* contributes much



much to its Riches. It has a Presidial erected by *Henry II.* in 1553, in behalf of his Queen Countess of *Lauraguais*. Some twenty years ago, *Lewis XIV.* to vex the Protestants transferr'd thither from *Castres*, their Chamber of the *Edict*. It was in the Plains of *Castelnaudary* that the *Mareschal of Schomberg* defeated the Troops of the Duke of *Orleance*, on the 1. of September 1632, and took Prisoner the Duke of *Montmorency*, who was since Beheaded at *Toulouse*.

*S. Papoul*, *S. Pappulus*, or *S. Pappolus*, on the source of the small River *Lampt*, 3 Miles North-East of *Castelnaudary*, and 13 Leagues South-East of *Toulouse*. It was formerly a famous Monastery, mention'd in the Constitution of the Emperour *Lewis the Meek* in 817, and since erected into a Bishoprick Suffragan to *Toulouse*, by Pope *John XXII.* The Town is not very large, and the whole Diocese has but 45 Parishes.

The other places of this Diocese are, *Ville-Franche de l'Auraguais*, which *Sanson* puts in the Diocese of *Toulouse*, but *De Valois* under this Bishoprick, *la Mas Saintes Puelles*, *Mansum S. Puellarum*, *Vignonet*, *Avenio Castrum*, *Villepeinte*. *Fagnaux* is reck'ned in *Lauraguais*, but depends on the Bishop of *Mirepoix*. It's call'd in Latin *Fanum Jovis*, *Fan-jaux* from a renown'd Temple of *Jupiter* that was built there.



## Of Albigeois.

**T**HIS Country comprehending the Diocese of *Alby* and *Castres*, has those of *S. Pons*, *Carcassonne*, and *La vaur* on the South and South-West, those of *Montauban*, *Cahors* and *Rodez*, on the North and North-West, and those of *Vabres*, *Lodeve* and *Beziers* on the East, and reaches 17 or 18 Leagues East and West, and 21 North and South. *Du Chesne* takes its ancient Inhabitants for the *Helvii* of *Cæsar*, who are rather those of *Vivarais*, and *Sanson* for the *Eleutheres* or *Heleutheres*, subject to the *Auvergnats*, as well as those of *Quercy*, *Gevaudan* and *Velay*; adding withal that the *Cambolectri*, whom *Pliny* places in *Aquitania*, inhabited the Diocese of *Alby*, and the *Cambolectri Atlantici* the Diocese of *Castres*. But as he grounds his conjectures upon no certain foundation, so they are rejected by *De Valois*. We have already seen that the *Tectosages* fill'd up all the Western part of *Languedoc* to the very *Cevennes* and the Mediterranean Sea, and consequently that the *Albigeois* might well be the ancient *Tolistobogii* or *Trocmi*, Neighbours, Allies, or Subjects to the *Tectosages*.

I have observ'd in the first part of this Book, how the Disciples of *Vigilantius*, spread in  
Guyenne



*Guyenne* and *Languedoc*, were for a long time as a Bank, that stopp'd the overflowing superstition. But when this Torrent grew so strong, that this Barrier prov'd too weak, God rais'd, new Defensors to his Church. At the beginning of the XII. Century, *Peter of Bruys*, a Native of *Dauphiné*, Preached and writ successfully against the prevailing Errors, and was happily seconded by *Henry*, a Monk of *Toulouse*. The Papists had recourse to their usual Arms, Fire and Sword, by which means they both got the Crown of Martyrdom. But their Blood prov'd, as well as that of the first Christians, the Seed of the true Church; so that after the Dispersion of *Valdo's* Disciples about 1160, some of 'em retiring in those parts, they were kindly receiv'd. The vulgar had so good an Opinion of them, that they commonly call'd them *les Bons Hommes*, the Good Men, and even *Raymond* the old Count of *Toulouse*, *Peter* King of *Arragon*, the Counts of *Foix*, *Comminges* and the Viscounts of *Bearn* spoused their Cause. And as Error and Vice are always timorous, so the Popes began to fear that their fatal day was come, and publish'd a *Croisade* against those pretended Hereticks, as though they had been Heathens or Mahometans. The *Albigensis*, under the Wings of their Lords and Protectors defended themselves almost an Age, but at last they were over-pow'ed by the number, the French King's catching hold of that opportunity, to deprive those petty Sovereigns of their Principalities. Then it was that such as had escap'd the Sword in the Field of Battel, fell in the bloody hands of the Inquisitors, who at long run made an end



end of them; however not so, as wholly to root the seeds of the truth out of their heart, which sprouted out again, when our first Reformers appear'd in the last Age; for then the Provinces of *Languedoc* and *Guienne*, the ancient Seat of the *Albigois*, produced more Converts than all the others of *France* taken together.

We have hardly any Account of the *Albigois*, then by such as were their sworn Enemies, Accusers, or rather Executioners; so that upon the plain confession of Popish Authors, that the *Albigois* held almost all the same Doctrines with the *Protestants*, and that they rejected the same Superstitions, for which the last are still divided from the Church of *Rome*, we might look as Calumnies some *Manichean* Tenets ascrib'd to them, as to deny the Divinity of the Old Testament, to admit a good and a bad Principle, &c. But to clear these Christian Hero's for ever, we have but to observe that the *Manicheans* having been banish'd the East by the *Greek Emperours*, they first spread themselves into *Germany*; thence they passed into *Italy* and *France*, where meeting with a People averse from Persecution, they readily crept and skulk'd amongst them; and the malicious Inquisitors catching some of these Hereticks, took hold of this occasion to defame the true *Albigois*. The R. D. *Allix* has given such incontestable proofs of these Matters of Fact, that I cannot imagine that a Roman Catholick of any sincerity will ever renew such notorious Calumnies.

*ALBY*, *Albia* or *Albiga* Capital of this Country lies upon the River *Tarn*, 17 Leagues North-East



East of *Toulouse*, and 14 South-East of *Montauban*. Its Foundation and Antiquity are unknown, for no antient Geographer remembers it, and the first mention of it that *De Valois* could find is in an old *Notice of the Gaules*, which puts *Civitas Albiensum* in the fourth place among the 8 Cities of the first *Aquitain*, though some of latter date name it but the seventh in Order. *Gregory of Tours* testifies that one *Salvus* was Bishop of *Alby*, under the Children of *Clovis*, and another call'd *Sabinus* subscrib'd to the Council of *Agde* in 505. but whether *S. Clair* a Martyr planted there Christianity, and was the first Bishop of that Town is uncertain. *Charlemaign* having erected *Aquitain* into a Kingdom, on behalf of *Lewis the Meek* his Son, establish'd Counts in the Principal Cities, who together with the Bishops were to be the young Prince's Counsellours, and *Aimoin* was nam'd the first Count of *Alby*. All these Counts having made themselves Sovereigns, during the decay of the French Monarchy; the Estate of the Counts of *Alby* pass'd by marriage into the House of *Toulouse*, and then both returned to the French Kings, by the means I have hinted speaking of *Languedoc*. *Alby* has been a long time a Suffragan to *Bourges*, and one of the richest Bishopricks in France, being about 50000 Crowns worth; but in 1576 it was made a Metropolitan by Pope *Innocent XI.* in behalf of *Hyacinthe Serroni*, a Roman Gentleman, and the Dioceses of *Rodez*, *Castres*, *Cahors*, *Vabres* and *Mende*, detached from *Bourges*, to whose Prelate has been given a recompence of some additional Revenues.



The Archbishop of *Alby* is still Lord temporal of that City, and the King has but there a *Viguier* for his Chief Justice. The Cathedral under the name of *S. Cecile* has one of the finest Quires in that Kingdom.

The other Towns or considerable Burroughs of this Diocese, are *Pennes* upon the *Aveyron*; *Cordes*, *Monestier*, and *Caramous* upon the *Ceron*, *Pampelone* upon the *Biaur*, *Gaulene*, and *Valence* near the source of the *Ceron*; *Tais*, *Maillac*, *Ville-neuve*, *Cajousac*, *Castelnau de Montmirail*, and *Peucelsy* upon the *Vere*; *Rabasteins*, *l' Isle*, *Gaillac*, *la Bastide de Lenis*, *Lescure* and *Trebas* upon the *Tarn* on the North side; *Grioussens*, *Cadelens*, *Denat*, *Albain* on the South of that River, *Lombers* on the *Affou*, *Realmont* on the *Dadou*, &c. *Gaillac* is famous for its white Wines, whose Drunkenness is not felt but an hour after the Debauch. At *Rabasteins* was fought a memorable Battel between the Duke of *Berri*, and the Count of *Foix*, in 1381.

*Castres*, the second Bishoprick contain'd in *Albigensis*, is seated on the *Agout* nine Leagues South of *Alby*, and 16 East of *Toulouse*. Both the Town and the Bishoprick are new, for we find no mention of the Town in ancient Geographers; only the Historians of the *Albigenses*, as *Peter* the Monk mention it as an illustrious Castle, under the name of *Castra*, and as the head of the Country of *Albigensis*. As to the Bishoprick it was erected by Pope *John XXII.* in 1317, instead of the Abby of *S. Vincent*, whose body was secretly convey'd from *Valence* in *Spain* hitherto, by *Andald* a Monk



Monk of *Gascony* in 858, if we believe *Aimoin*. *Castres* has still the name of a County, and has been possess'd under that Title by the Counts of *Mountfort*, and then by those of *Armagnac*; the last of whom *James* of *Armagnac* was behead- ed under *Lewis XI.* in 1417. This King gave it to one *Bouffil* of *Juges* his Lieutenant in *Rus- sillon*, but under *Francis I.* it was re-united to the *French Crown*. In the time of its Counts, *Castres* had a *Seneschal Comtal*, and a Judg of Appeals, but now all its Officers of Justice are resorting to the *Seneschalship* of *Carcassonne*. The *French King Henry IV.* had establish'd there a Chamber of the Edict or a Sovereign Court, consisting of Counsellors, one half Protestants and the other half Roman Catholicks; but *Lewis XIV.* transferr'd it to *Castelnandary*, and then abolish'd it with all the others in 1679. un- der pretence of uniting it to the Parliament of *Toulouse*. This Town divided into two parts by the River *Agout*, was taken by the Reformed in 1567, and is very much known by the Ma- nufactory of *Crapes*. It has several Churches and Monasteries, especially a *Chartreuse*, or Convent of *Carthusians* hard by the City. The Bishop's Palace is a very sumptuous Building. There is a great huge Rock call'd the *Rock of Lu- nel*, two Leagues from *Castres*, that is worth ta- king notice of, if it be true what I am assured by Mr. *Byer* a Gentleman of parts, and a Na- tive of that Country, viz. that it may be mov'd by any ones Hand or Finger, though it stands unmovable, when Carts and Coaches go over it, for it lies under a Bridge.



I shall here subjoyn another observation communicated to me, by that ingenious promoter of Learning Sir *Theodore de Vaux*, Physician to the Late King *Charles II.* Fellow of the Royal Society, concerning the Mountain of the *Priapes* as they call it, that lies betwixt *Castres* and *Carcassone*, much out of the road: It is a little Hill amongst other Hills, where the Stones are shap'd like Mens Yards, with two Stones perfectly made; some great like those of big Men, some like Boys, and some like Children: We gathered, said he, amongst us above 40 of them, some of which I gave during my Travels in sundry places, to the curious to put them into their Closet of Rarities. Amongst others I presented *Cavalier del Puzzo* a *Virtuoso* of *Rome*, with one very much resembling the natural parts of a Man of middle Age. These Stones being broken, there is a vein of Cristal in the midst. I gave one to King *Charles II.* not so big as that at *Rome*, but of as exact a shape. I had many of them at *Padoa*, but our Maid that found them on a Shelf flung some of them away, and others she broke, thinking we had put them there to laugh at her; one broken I gave to the Royal Society, with one that is made like a Womans thing, the earth round about this place is a Sand like blood almost. The reason of this I leave to Philosophers; observing only that the Inhabitants use to ascribe it to a *Celestial Influence*, for want of a more proper cause. So far my worthy Friend, whose relation I have inserted here the rather, that I never saw nor heard before of any thing like it.



Three Leagues North-West of *Castres* lies the small Town of *Lautrec*, with a ruined Castle, and the Title of a Viscounty, that has been born by the Counts of *Feix*, and since by several illustrious Families in *Languedoc*. This Town is seated upon a Mountain that produces excellent Wines, and the Chapter of *S. Peter* of *Burles* has been transferred thither.

The other places are, *Briateste*, *Graulhet*, and *Mondragon* upon the *Dadou*, *Venais*, *S. Germier*, and *Roque-courbe* near *Castres*, *Brassac*, and *Castelnau de Brassac*; *Pierre-Seguede*, *Viannes* and *La Canne* upon the *Gigeou*, *La Salvetat*, *Boissesson de Murviez*, and *S. Gervais*.



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Of the County of Foix.

THIS County comprehending the Dioceses of *Rieux*, *Pamiez*, and *Mirepoix*, has that of *Toulouse* on the North, those of *S. Papoul*, *Carcassonne*, and *Alet* on the East, part of *Catalogne* on the South, and the Counties of *Conserans* and *Comminges* on the West. It reaches 20 Leagues South and North from *Lavet Coronat*, near the source of the *Arriegue*, to its mixing with the *Lers*, between *Sabaudun* and *Calmont*, and 14 or 16 East and West. This Country has had its particular Counts issued from the Earls of *Carcassonne* during six Ages. *Bernard I.* if we believe the Learned *De Marce*, was the first Count of *Foix* in 1012. *Raimond Roger* the Sixth, in order took the part of the *Albigois*, about the beginning of the XIII. Century. It's reported that as in a conference, betwixt the *Roman* and these true *Catholicks*, the Sister of the Count would speak in behalf of the last, a rough Monk *Stephen* of *Minia* told her most uncivilly, that *She ought to go and spin from her distaff, and not to meddle with Religious Matters*, whereupon the ingenious Princess reply'd that the very *Stones will speak where Men keep an unworthy silence, and that she must needs discharge a Duty, which*  
he



he was either unable or unwilling to perform. The zealous Count lost a great part of his Estate in this quarrel; but his Son Roger Bernard II. to preserve the rest, reconcil'd himself to the Church of Rome, and made Peace with the French King Lewis IX. in 1246. The Counts of Foix became afterwards more powerful, and acquired either by Marriage or Inheritance the Viscounties of Bearn and Chastelbon, the Lordships of Grailly and Albret, and even the Kingdom of Navarr, till all these Dominions and Estates past into the House of France, by the coming of Henry IV. to that Crown. This County has several Quarries of fine Marble and some Silver Mines.

FOIX upon the Arriegue, Fuxum has the Title of a County and Peerdom, erected by Charles VII. in behalf of Gaston of Foix, in 1458. It has an election, and is the Seat of a Seneschal, and of the Estates of the Province. It lies near the Pyrenean Mountains, 17 Leagues South of Toulouse, and resorts for the spiritual to the Bishop of Pamiers.

Pamiers, Apamia, upon the same River, 4 Leagues North of Foix, and 13 South of Toulouse, was anciently a Town called Fredelac, where the Counts of Carcassonne, founded in the 8 Age an Abby of Regular Canons of S. Austin, under the name of S. Antonia. De Valois esteems him to be the same who has written an Itinerary, or a Journal of his Travels from France to the Holy Land through Italy; but at the same time he quotes an ancient Martyrology, wherein this S. Antonin is said to have suffer'd Martyrdom at Pamiers by the Heathens,



*V. Nonas Sept.* or the 2. of *September*, but the Year is not mention'd ; so that the whole remains uncertain. Sure it is, that this Town had already a considerable Castle, in the time of the *Albigois*, whose Historians call it *Apamia* and *Apamia*, that in 1149, *Roger Bernard* Count of *Feix*, presented the Abbots of *S. Antonin*, with the Town and Castle of *Pamiers*, and that in 1256 Pope *Boniface VIII.* erected this Abby into a Bishoprick, in behalf of *Bernard Saisseti* the Abbot. The French King *Philip the Fair* did not like this election, and gave the Bishoprick to one *Lewis* of *Provence*, who dy'd in 1298 : After his death he consented to the reinstallation of *Saisseti* ; but was so incens'd at a Speech this Prelate made to him, that he caus'd him to be arrested in 1301, and put under the guard of its Metropolitan the Archbishop of *Narbonne*, who was then at Court. Pope *Boniface* took fire at it, sent *John* of *Normandy* Archdeacon of *Narbonne* to get *Saisseti* at Liberty ; but he was deny'd it, and the Holy Father's Thunderbolts despis'd ; so that after *Boniface's* death the imprison'd Prelate was fain to beg the King's pardon, upon which he was releas'd. Some years ago, a late Bishop of *Pamiers* has been a great Confessor of *Jansenism*, and of free Elections, maintaining the Rights of his Church under the Protection of Pope *Innocent XI.* against *Lewis XIV.* and the Jesuits. This Town was submitted to the new Archbishop of *Toulouse*, by Pope *John XXII.* and in the last Age fell under the Power of the Protestants. It is divided into 6 Wards, each of which has his Consul or Sheriff.

You



You have besides in this Diocese the Towns of *Mazeres*, upon the *Lers*, *Maceria*, so call'd from the slight Buildings they were made of at first, as well as *Maizieres* in *Rhetelois*, *Maziers* or *Mazerocles* in *Ponthieu* and *Mezieres en Brenne*. It has a ruin'd Castle which has been sometime the Residence of the Counts of *Foix*. *Montaut* lies 3 Miles South of *Mazeres*, and 5 North of *Pamiers*. *Sabaudun* or *Saverdun*, is made up of 4 little Towns, most of them ruined; its situation is pleasant, and the Earls of *Foix* have oft dwelt in it. *Barilles* *Vatilla*, *S. Paul*, *Tarascon*, *Castrum Tarasco*, different from *Tarascon* upon the *Rhone*, and *Acqs* from *Dax* or *Acqs* upon the *Adour*, are seated upon the *Arriegue*. On the South-side of that River you meet with *Chateau-verdun*, *vic de Soz*, whence the best Iron in France is extracted. *Saurac*, *Castelnau*, *le Mas d'Azil*, *Azilium*, or *Mansum Azili*, with an ancient Abby of *Benedictins*, which *Du Val* puts in the Diocese of *Rieux*: Then you find *Serberat*, *les Bordes*, *Carlac* and *S. Ibar*.

*Mirepoix*, *Castrum Mirapicis*, or *de Mirapice*, one of the new Bishopricks, lies upon the *Lers* 11 Miles South-East of *Pamiers*, 12 North-East of *Foix*, and almost 15 South-West of *Castelnaudary*. In 1210, *Simon* Count of *Montfort* took this Town from the *Albigois*, and bestow'd it upon *Guy* Lord of *Levi*, with the Title of Marshal of the Faith, whose posterity has ever since enjoy'd *Mirepoix*, and its Territory, erected first into a Barony, and then into a Marquisate. In 1390. *Roger Bernard* of *Levis* yielded to the King of France, one half of the



Jurisdiction he had upon the Castle of this Town and some of its dependencies, for which he got some other Lands. These Gentlemen pretend to be a kin to the Blessed Virgin, as issued from the Tribe of Levi; but I do not know how they prove it.

On this Diocese are farther depending *Bel-puech*, that is *Fair Hill*, for *Puy*, *Puech* and *Pic*, signifie as much as Mountain or Hill, *Laurac*, *Le Carlat*, *Fagnaux Fanum Jovis*, *Riez*, *Libertat*, *Leyran*, *Chalabre*, *le Peyrat*, *Mirabel*. *Bel-lestat* near the source of the *Lers* has a Fountain, which ebbs and flows.

*Rieux*, *Rivi*, has taken its name from its Situation, on the fall of the *Rize* into the *Garonne*. It is one of the Bishopricks of Pope John XXII's Foundation, of which *Pilefort* of *Rabastens* Cardinal was the first Prelate in 1318. This Diocese has besides the Town of *Fueillans* upon the River *Touche*, with an Abby Chief of the Order of *Cisteraux*, *Calers* another Abby of *Cisternian* Monks, *Lezat* of *Benedictins*, *Salanques* of *Cisternian* Nuns. *Carbonne*, *Montesquieu de Volvestre*, *S. Sulpice*, &c.



## CHAP. XIV.

## OF LOWER LANGUEDOC.

*Of the Precinct of Narbonne.*

**N**ARBONNOIS, as comprehending the Dioceses of *Alet*, *Narbonne*, *Carcassonne*, and *S. Pons de Tamières*, has *Albigensis* on the North, the Precinct of *Beziers* on the East, the Mediterranean Sea on the South; the County of *Foix*, and *Lauragais* on the West.

*Alet*, *Elesta*, or *Alesta* upon the *Aude*, is both a new Town, and a new Bishoprick, as are most of the others erected to that Dignity by Pope John XXII. This Pope establish'd the See of the Prelate to *Limoux*, in 1317. but it was transferr'd hither two years after. *Petrarcha* seem'd not to like these foundations, when speaking of this Pontife, he says that France still complains of his dividing many Dioceses, and lodging the new Prelates in unfit places, whereas before none but great and wealthy Cities enjoy'd the Privilege of being Bishopricks. (*Rerum memorand. Lib. II.*) *Alet* lies above 9 Leagues South-



South-East of *Mirepoix*, and 15 South-West of *Narbonne*.

*Limoux*, two Leagues North-West of *Alet* upon the same River, is renown'd for its White Wines : It is call'd *Limosum Castrum*, because seated in a muddy Soyl, and is often mention'd in the Wars of the *Albigensis*. As this Diocese Borders on the *Pyrenees*, and the County of *Poix*, so it is most mountainous. *De Valois* reckons in it *Tonnens*, *Mazerolles*, *Ville-Longue*, and *Montferrand*, famous for its Bathes ; but I find none of 'em in *Sanfon's* Maps, and I doubt whether those this Learned Man perus'd, were of the best sort. *Sanfon* only mentions *Coustaussa*, *Quilla*, and *Bugarach*, with two Villages *Cauvissan* and *Arques*. As to *Sault Pagus Saltus*, which the said *De Valois* places in this Diocese, it is a separate Country lying on the South-West, according to *Sanfon*.

**NARBONNE**, *Narbo Martius Decumanorum* or *Atacinarum*, so call'd, because the Romans sent thither a Colony out of the tenth Legion, that bore the Surname of *Martial*, and that this City is built near the Mouth of the River *Aude*, *Atax*. The first Plantation was made by *Licinius Cassius* that famous Orator, under the Consulate of *Q. Martius*, and *M. Porcius Cato* in 636 of Rome ; wherefore some Antiquaries derive from the first Consul the Surname of *Martius* given to *Narbonne* ; though *Ausonius* calls it *Martie* in the Vocative Case, and not *Marci*, as he ought to have done, if it came from a Man's name. *Julius Cesar* sent thither another Colony, under the conduct of *Tiberius Claudius Nero*, Father to the Emperour *Tibere*, whence  
this



this City got the names of *Colonia Julia Paterna Narbo Martius*, exprest by these five Letters C. I. P. N. M. in an ancient Monument. The Roman Proconsuls, Senate, and Emperors took a particular delight in beautifying Narbonne, and endowing it with fine Privileges. They built there an Amphitheatre, and a Capitole all of Marble, which subsisted yet in *Ansonius* and *Sidonius Apollinaris's* time, that is in the IV and V Centuries; nay we find yet mention of it in the XIIIth. Age, though not so precise that we can just tell in what State it then was: Now it is but a heap of ruines near the King's Gate, call'd by the Inhabitants *Capdueil*.

One may judge of the former magnificence of this City, by the following Verses of *Sidonius Apollinaris*.

*Salve Narbo potens salubritate,  
Qui urbe & rure simul bonus videris,  
Muris, Civibus, ambitu, tabernis,  
Portis, porticibus, foro, Theatro,  
Delubris, Capitoliis, Monetis,  
Thermis, Arcubus, Horreis, Macellis,  
Pratis, fontibus, insulis, salinis,  
Stagnis, flumine, merce, ponte, ponto,  
Unus qui jure venerere Divos  
Leneum, Cererem, Palem, Minervam,  
Spicis, palmitibus, pascuis, tapetis.*

Well met, mighty healthful Narbonne, thou  
that art renown'd both for thy Town and Terri-  
tory, for thy Walls, Citizens, Circuit, Taverns,  
Gates, Galleries, Palace, Amphitheatre, Temples,  
Capitole, Mint, Bathes, Arches, Granaries,  
Shambles, Meadows, Fountains, Islands, Salt-  
pits,



pits, Ponds, River, Merchandizes, Bridges and Sea. Thou art the only City that may by right present those Gods with offrands, Bacchus, Ceres, Pales, Minerve, with Vine-branches, Ears of Corn, Hay, Tapestries, &c.

Du Chesne adds, that the Romans had built there Aqueducts besides, and erected publick Schools much like to our Universities. We are apt to imagine that the only design of these Conquerors of the World was to shew their Magnificence, and withal the Greatness and Power of their Empire: But, if I am not mistaken, these shrewd Politicians had a farther insight. Cicero says, that they had planted that Colony, as a Watch-Town, and a Rampier, or a Fence of the Roman People against the Natives: *Specula Populi Romani ac propugnaculum istis ipsis Nationibus oppositum & obiectum.* And lest the new Inhabitants should contract too great a familiarity with the ancient, care was taken to raise those of Roman Original so far above the Gauls, that they should endeavour to keep up their grandure by a constant Union with the head of the Empire. Since they had began to follow this method; we read but of few Rebellions in their new and yearly conquests, and of a fewer in their Foreign Plantations. Contrariwise they erected on their side publick Monuments of their gratitude to their Benefactors; such was the Altar our Narbanenses built to Cesar August, after his Death, and Apotheosis, and the sacrifices they instituted in his honour, whose Laws were engraven in Capital Letters, on a Marble-table, that is yet subsisting. The chief of them were  
that



that on the 23. of September, the day that August was proclaim'd Emperor, as also on the first of January, and the 7 of June, three Roman Plebeian Knights, and three Freemen, \* should each of them offer Sacrifices, and furnish the Plantation, and other Inhabitants with Wine and Frankincense of their own.

Some fabulous Authors pretend that Narbonne was built by a Gaulish King, call'd Narbon; but it appears that this name is not much older than the Romans time; since this Country was anciently inhabited by the *Bebryces*, a Nation confining on the *Iberians* or *Spaniards*, as *Stephanus* has it, whose testimony is confirmed by that of *Marcianus*, † who speaks of the *Maritime Bebryces*, Neighbours to the *Ligurians*, and the *Grecian Cities of Gaul*, that is, to the Coasts of *Marseille* and *Genoa*. *Rufus Festus Avienus*, describing the Southern Coast of *Languedoc*, says, that it was all possess'd by the *Bebryces*, and that *Narbonne* was then the head of a powerful Kingdom, which reach'd according to *Ausonius* || from *Franche-Comté* to the *Pyrenées*, North and South, and from the *Cevennes* to *Aquitain* East, and West. *Tzetzes* in his Commentaries on *Lycophron* relates out of *Dian*, that those who are now call'd *Narbonnians*, had formerly the name of *Bebryces*, and that the *Pyrenean Mountains*, which separate *Spain* from *Gaul* belong'd to them; whereupon the Poet *Silius Italicus* has grounded this Fable, that *Pyrene* Daughter to King *Bebryx*, whom *Hercules* got with Child, going to *Spain* through *Gaul*, gave her name to

\* *Libertini* Sons to *Slaves* made free. † In *Periplo Gallie*. || *Deser. Ill. Civit.*

these



these Mountains. It seems that the *Bebryces* who inhabited part of *Bithynia* were issued from this *Gaulish* People, whom this Plantation weakened so much, that the *Teutosages* master'd their Country, or made it Tributary, whence it came that in process of time they lost their ancient Name as well as their Empire; for in *Pliny's* Age, they were only known as a part of the *Teutosages*.

*Narbonne* remained faithful to the *Romans* till the utmost decay of the Western Empire, in 435, that it was besieg'd by the *Goths*, under their King *Theodoric*. It then made a considerable resistance; but in 462. Count *Agrippin* its Governour, envying the prosperous successes of *Ægidius*, or *Gillon* Chiet Commander of the *Roman* Militia in the *Gauls*, delivered this City into the Enemies hands. The *Goths* were content with the demolishing of its Walls, and preserv'd its other Monuments of Antiquity; but the barbarous *Huns*, who took it some time after, destroy'd them all. Notwithstanding, it recover'd still part of its former lustre, and when the *Saracens* took and plunder'd it, in 732, it was become again the finest, the most famous, and the Capital of that Country, if we may believe *Aimoin*; but *Charles Martel*, who retook it not long after, made a greater havock in all *Lower Languedoc* than the Enemies themselves.

However of all the mischiefs *Narbonne* has been expos'd to, the most sensible seems to be the unworthy treatment it receiv'd from *Simon* of *Montfort*, who by the help of numerous *Croisades*, having at last got the better of *Raimond*

Count



Count of *Toulouse*, and his Vassals and Confederates, ordered the Inhabitants of *Narbonne* to throw down their own Walls, which they were forc'd to do for fear of the worst.

As to the Civil Government, we have hinted how this City was at first the head of a Kingdom under the *Bebryces*, then subject to the *Tectosages*, and afterwards to the *Romans*, who made it the Capital of, and gave its name to the fourth part of *Gaule*, call'd from hence *Gallia Narbonnensis*, and since subdivided into 5. Provinces, the 1 and 2 *Narbonnoise*, the *Viennoise*, the *Greek Alps*, and the *Maritim Alps*, that is, all *Savoy*, *Dauphiné*, *Provence*, *Lower Languedoc*, *Roussillon*, the *Toulousan*, and the County of *Foix*. During the decay of the *French Monarchy*, under the second race of their Kings, the Dukes of *Septimania*, took upon them the Title of Dukes of *Narbonne*, as did likewise the Counts of *Toulouse* their Successors; but the following Lords of this Town and adjacent Territories, contented themselves with the Name of Viscounts, which they bore from 1134 to 1507. that *Gaston of Foix* last Viscount of *Narbonne* exchang'd it for other Lands with the *French King Lewis XII.* his Uncle.

If we believe the Tradition of the most credulous of *Roman Catholick Authors*, the Proconsul *Sergius Paulus* converted by the Apostle of that name, was the first Preacher of Christianity at *Narbonne*, and consequently its first Bishop. But though this Tradition be uncertain, this Church is however of a great antiquity; and there are plausible proofs, that it has been a Metropolitan from the time of *Constantine the Great*.



Great in 309. and though the erection of *Toulouse* into an Archbishoprick, has restrain'd its Jurisdiction into narrower Limits; yet it has still ten Suffragans, viz. *Beziers*, *Agde*, *Lodeve*, *Maguelonne*, now at *Montpellier*, *Nismes*, *Uzez*, *Carcassonne*, *Elne*, now at *Perpignan*, *S. Pons de Tomieres*, and *Alet*.

This City has been much bigger and larger than it is now, as appears by the ruins of the Palace of the *Gaulish* Kings, that are without the Town. However it is still considerable, especially for its Fortifications, which render it one of the Keys of *France*, on this side the *Pyrenees*. In *Pliny's* time, it was seated upon the River *Aude*, twelve *Italian* Miles South of the Sea, but is now nine or ten Miles only distant from it, which shews, that either the Sea has not gain'd upon the Land, or that this City has been rebuilt near the Shore. It is properly the *Aude*, that goes through *Narbonne*, and divides it into two Parts, the City and the Burrough, but a Channel drawn from it, call'd *La Robine*. The Cathedral Church under the Name of *St. Just*, and *St. Saviour* is renowned for it's Organs, and the Picture of *Lazarus* rising from the dead. There are 5 Parishes besides, of which the most famous is the Collegiate of *St. Paul*. The whole Diocese contains 4 Archdeaconships, that of *Narbonne*, *Corbieres*, *Le Razès* and *Fenouillet*, an Abby of *Augustinians*, call'd *Our Lady of forty Notre-Dame de quarante*, another of *Cisternians*, under the name of *Notre-Dame de la Fon-frede*, *Our Lady of the cold Fountain*, and several Monasteries. The Palace of the Archbishop is not that of the Kings of the *Wisigoths*

or



or *Westgoths*, which was demolish'd in 1451. Hard by, at a place call'd *Pontforme*, are the remains of an ancient Bridge built by the Romans. The Air hereabouts is not extraordinary wholiom.

*Leucate*, *Leucata*, keeps still its ancient name that was given it, as it seems, by the Inhabitants of *Marseille* a Colony of the *Phoceans*, because of the whiteness of the steep and naked Rocks wherewith it is environ'd, for *Λεῦκα* signifies *white* and *glistening*. Round about the Hill, which is the Seat of *Leucate*, lies a Pond in the form of a *Peninsule*; so that this Town is very strong by Nature. *Francis I.* built there a Fort to which other Fortifications having been since added; *Serbellon* General of the *Spaniards* besieg'd it in vain, and was defeated by the Governor of *Languedoc*, *Charles* of *Schomberg* Duke of *Halluyn*, September 29 1637.

The other Towns or considerable Burroughs of this Diocese are, *Capestan*, *Caput-Stagni* so call'd, because it's seated at the head of a Pond, wherein the *Aude* discharges it self, *Colombier*, *Puy-serguier* *Podium Sericarium*, North-East of *Narbonne*; *Rieux*, *Azillac* and *Lesignan* on the North-West; *Bages*, *Peyriac*, *Ville-Salee* and *Sigean* on the South, the second and last of these have Salt-pits; four Leagues and a half North of *Narbonne*, and five West of *Beznil*, lies a Village nam'd *Quarante*, at the foot of a Mountain, whence both Towns may be discover'd; which has given occasion to this pleasant equivocation, the one may see *quarante* or *denve Villes*, forty and two Towns. *Quarante* the name of that Village signifying *forty*.

*Carcas-*



*Carcassonne, Carcasso or Carcassum Volcarum Tectosagum*, above 13 Leagues West of *Narbonne*, and almost 20 South-East of *Toulouse*. It's seated upon the River *Aude*, which divides into two parts, the Town and the City, both wall'd in, and joyn'd by a Stone-bridge, but having each their particular Magistrates and Government. The City is higher than the Town, and incompass'd with a double Wall, Towers, and deep Moats. It has a Castle with a Garrison kept by the King in ordinary pay, a Presidial-seat, and the first Seneschallship of the Province. Both parts of *Carcassonne* make together a pretty big City, which seems somewhat ancient, by reason of the old Mss. Acts that are found there, written on the bark of Trees, on fine Linnen and the like stuff; besides the great many old weapons, Harnesses, and other Warlike Engines that are in its Arsenal. That part which is called the Town is built along the River, and though most of the Houses be made of Wood, yet they give a fine prospect, because the Streets are strait-right, and end at a Square, whence the 4 Gates of the Town may be discover'd. It is surrounded with Bastions and Rampiers, that make it capable of some defence. The Chief Trade of the Inhabitants consists in Box-combs, Serges, and Cloaths, whereof there are several Manufactures. The Bishoprick is not so ancient as the City, for the old Notices of the *Gauls* do not mention it; and the first Prelate of *Carcassonne* that we find upon record, is one *Sergius*, who subscrib'd in that quality to a Council held at *Narbonne*, in 590, the 4th year of *Recarede* King of the West-



*Westgoths*; Whereas *Pliny*, *Ptolomy*, and the Tables of the Emperour *Theodosius* speak of the City, whose Cathedral is dedicated to *S. Nazaire*. The *Gottish* Monarchs had extraordinary fortify'd this Town, in which they kept their treasure, and as 'tis pretended the spoils of *Rome*. The *French* besieg'd it in vain, after they had routed *Alaric* in 507, but *Gontran* King of *Orleanse*, having taken it by intelligence, was forced to retire and leave it, having received a notable overthrow from King *Recarede* in 587 or 588. However the *French* having at last expell'd the *Wisigoths* beyond the *Pyrenees*, became absolute Masters of *Carcassonne*. The Emperor *Charles the Bald* gave it to *Bernard II.* Count of *Toulouse* in 871, but 'tis not certain who were his Successors till the year 974. that *Arnauld* Count of *Carcassonne* was succeeded by several other during above two Centuries. The extinction of that family, or the loss of their Sovereignty came from the protection *Raymond Roger*, the last Count gave to the *Albigens*; for the *Croisado's* Army incens'd at it, besieg'd and took *Carcassonne* in 1209, the Council of *Latran* approv'd of, and confirm'd this Usurpation in 1215, and invested *Simon of Montfort* with the Estates of the depriv'd Count. However *Amaury* his Son not being able to keep his Father's Conquests, yielded them to the *French* King *Lewis VIII.* in 1222, and in 1247 *Raimond Trincavel* the true Heir and Lord of *Carcassonne*, as only Son to *Raymond Roger*, yielded likewise his lawful pretensions to *Lewis IX.*

Round about *Carcassonne* are some other Towns and Burroughs, that make up his Diocese call'd  
le Ca-



*le Carcassez, as Montreal, Alzone, Montolieu, Seys-  
fac, Mas de Cabardes, Penaultier, Trebes, Mar-  
seillettes, Montlaur Coffosens, &c.*

*S. Pons de Tomieres, was but an inco siderable  
Village, where Raimond III. Count Toulouse  
founded an Abby of Benediktins in 957, under  
the name of S. Pons, Martyr and Bishop of  
Cimele or Nice. Thence it was that Raimond  
took the Sirname of Pons, and that Latin  
Authors call this Town Pentropolis as well as  
Tomerie. Pope John XXII. turn'd this Mona-  
stery into a Bishoprick, Suffragan to Narbonne  
in 1318, and the Monks were made Secular  
Canons in 1625. Its Prelate is Lord of the  
Town, which is neither big nor thick inhabi-  
ted; but has this considerable, that it lies near  
the Spring of a River call'd *La jaur*, which at  
its very source is so great as to move several  
Mills, and having wash'd divers Villages dis-  
charges it self into the *Orbe*. *S. Pons de Tomie-  
res* stands almost 11 Leagues North-West of  
*Narbonne*, and 12 of *Carcassonne*. Its Diocese  
comprehends the Towns or Burroughs of *La  
Bastide*, *S. Amant de Valtoret*, *Angles*, *Olargues*,  
*La Voute*, *Cessenon*, *S. Chignan de la Corne*,  
*Creuzy*, *Aygues-vives*, *La Caumelle*, *Mienerbe*,  
*Ferralz*, &c.*



## Of the Precinct of Beziers.

**T**HE *Bezars* considered as comprehending the Dioceses of *Beziers*, *Agde* and *L-deve*, has those of *Montpellier* and *Nismes* on the East, those of *Castres*, *St. Pons* and *Narbonne* on the West, the Mediterranean Sea on the South, and the Mountains of *Cevennes* and *Rouergue* on the North. It reaches about 15 Leagues East and West, and 17 North and South.

**BEZIERS**, *Beteræ*, *Biteræ* or *Bliteræ* *Septumano-*  
*rum*, five Miles North of the Sea, and six Leagues North-East of *Narbonne*, is one of the biggest and best peopl'd Cities in *Languedoc*, seated upon a Hill of difficult access, whose foot is wash'd by the River *Orbe*. This City is very ancient, and mention'd by *Strabo*, *Pliny*, *Ptolomy* and others, but the time of his foundation is uncertain: Only we know that it was a *Roman* Colony in *Julius Cesar's* time, since repair'd and increas'd by *Tiberius*, who built there two Temples, one to *Augustus*, and the other to *Livia*. It kept its lustre under the *Romans*, and even under the *Goths*, tho they ruin'd its most sumptuous Buildings; but in 736, the *Saracens* having taken it, *Charles Martel*, who retook it the following year, raz'd it to the Ground, lest it should serve for a Nest to these *Mahumetans*. The Inhabitants repair'd it soon after, and it began to flourish



flourish again under *Pepin*, *Charlemaign*, and their Successors, and had Viscounts of its own during the decay of the *French* Monarchy, whose Estate being united by Marriage to that of the Counts of *Carcassonne* fell under the power of the *Croisado* in 1209, who took the Town, and kill'd 10000 of its Citizens: Some years after, in 1222 and 1247, it fell to the share of the *French* Kings, by the means I have observ'd, speaking of *Carcassonne*. The learned *Hollstenius*, in his Notes on *Ortelius*, and on *Stephanus* pretends, that *Beterræ* is the true name of *Beziers*, because of an ancient Medal or piece of Money found in 1629. at *Murviel*, three Leagues North West of *Beziers*, with this Inscription *BHTHPPATON*. *Beziers* is the first Suffragan of *Narbonne*, since the erection of *Toulouse* into an Archbishoprick, and *Aphrodisius* is accounted its first Prelate, under whose Name was an Abby, that has been turned into Secular Prebends. There is still another of *Augustinians*, bearing the Name of *St. James*, and the Cathedral Church that of *S. Nazaire*. The *Arians* held here a Council in 356, whose Acts are now lost, and the only notice we have of them is by the Works of *S. Hilaire*, who making bold to accuse the Heads of that Party, they prevailed with the Emperour *Constantius* to have him banished. There are likewise some remains of an Amphitheatre, and a Cittadel, that was demolish'd in 1636. The Streets of *Beziers* are fine and broad; the Bishop's Palace has a very fine Prospect upon the neighbouring Campaign, and the Town-house a high Tower. The Jesuit's Colledge is esteem'd for a sumptuous Gate; but much more for a Picture, so naturally



ly representing a bursting Wall, that several of the most curious observers have mistaken it for real Cracks. The Trade of *Beziers* is somewhat considerable, but the roughness of the Sea, and the Banks that lie all along the Coast do not allow great Merchant-men to approach the Shore, and they are only small Boats, which can enter into the *Graus*.

The Diocesis of *Beziers* contains besides the Capital, the following Towns or Burroughs; *Ville-neuve la Cremade*, *Murviel*, *Magalar*, *St. Laurent*, *Fongeres*, *Colombiers*, *Bec-de-Rieux*, *St. Gervais*, *Lunaz*, &c.

*AG D E*, *Agatha Massiliensium*, built by the Phoceans of *Marjeille*, as *Strabo*, and its Name of Greek Original testify, lies on the mouth of the *Erant Arauris*, a League South of the Sea, another West of the Bull's Pond, *Etang de Thau*, and six South-East of *Beziers*. *Stephanus* calls it a Town or a Colony of the *Ligurians*, that is the *Genoese*, or of the *Celtes*, that is the *Transalpine Gauls*. It's first name was *'Αγαθή Τύχη*, that is *Good-fortune*, if we believe *Timosthenes* a Greek Author, perhaps because of some advantage the *Phoceans* got over the Inhabitants, when they were planting this Colony. It was subject to its founders, till *Julius Cesar* depriv'd the *Massilians* of all their Dominions, leaving them nothing but their own Liberty. *Agde*, as well as *Beziers* are reckon'd by the ancient Geographers in the Country of the *Tectosages*. *Ptolomy* speaks of two Islands near *Agde*, the first of which, he calls *Agathe*, as well as the Town, and the second *Blasco*. As to the last, it's undoubtedly *Bresou*, a small Isle in the Sea

Y

near



near *Cape d' Agde*, two Leagues South of that City, and the first may be another form'd by the two Arms of the *Erant*, falling into *Grand d' Agde*, West over against it. In 506, *Alaric* King of the *West-Goths* allow'd the Catholick Bishops of his Dominions to assemble in Council at *Agde*, as they did in the Church of *S. Andrews*, where they made 71 Canons concerning Ecclesiastical Discipline, to which *Sophronius* subscribed as Bishop of *Agde*. The Foundation of this Bishoprick seems not to be much elder; for in a Notice of the *Gauls* under the Empire of *Honorius*, there is no mention of *Agde*. Its Cathedral under the name of *S. Stephen* has 12 Canons, whereof 4 are dignify'd with the Titles of Archdeacon, Sexton, Precentor, and Chamberlain. The Town is not very big, but Rich and Trading; especially since the Haven of *Brescou* has been repair'd, so that Merchant-men can now come pretty near *Agde*, and Boats somewhat large enter into the Mouth of the River, where they exchange several Commodities for the Wines of the Country. *Agde* has had its own Viscounts, whose Estate fell to the share of those of *Nismes* and *Carcassonne*. In 1187, *Bernard-Atton*, Son to a Viscount of *Nismes*, presented the Bishop of *Agde* with the Viscounty of it.

Five Miles North of *Agde*, near the fall of the River *Touque* into the *Erant*, lies the Town of *S. Tiberi*, or *S. Tubery*, call'd *Arauca* or *Cesero*, in the Itinerary of *Antonin*, with an ancient Abby of *Benedictins*. It has its name from one *Tiberius*, who together with *Modestus* and



and *Florentia*, got here the Crown of Martyrdom, under *Diocletian* and *Maximian*.

Two Leagues more Northwards upon the *Erant*, lies the Town of *Pesens*, *Piscene*, so call'd from the many Fish-ponds, that were round about it in the *Romans* time. This Town is renown'd for its Fairs, and for its Women that are said to yield to none of that Country in well breeding and comeliness, but to those of *Montpellier*. The late Governours of *Languedoc*, as the Duke of *Montporency*, and the Prince of *Conti*, have kept here their ordinary Residence, and the States of the Province have been consequently held here, which has much contributed to the enriching and beautifying of this Town.

The other places of this Diocese are, *Marcellan*, *Florensac*, *Castelnau*, *Montagnac*, *Le Pouget*, *Gignac*, *Ville-Magne*, *Loupian*, and *Meze* the *Mesua* of *Pomponius Mela*; tho the Island he speaks of, seems rather to be *Lates*.

*Lodeve*, seated between Mountains near the meeting of the Rivers *Solondre* and *Lergne*, not far from the *Cevennes*, and the Borders of *Rouergue* and *Gevaudan*, lies almost 9 Leagues North of *Pesens*, and 12 of *Agde*. Its antient name in *Latin* is *Forum-Neronis*, and then *Leutova* both known to *Pliny*, and its Bishop kept already the 4th or 5th rank among the Suffragans of *Narbonne*, at the beginning of the 5th Century. *Lodeve* is not now very big, for it has suffer'd several devastations during the Wars of the *Goths*, then of the *Albigens*, and lastly during the Civil Wars between the *Protestants* and *Roman Catholics*, and the Duke of *Mont-*



morency took it in 1585. This Town had formerly the Title of a Viscounty ; which one of its Prelates *Raimond Guilhen* Brother to the Lord of *Montpellier* bought off from Viscount *Geldin*, whence it comes that the Bishops of *Lodeve* are Lords of it ; appoint the Magistrates and take the Title of Counts of *Montbrun*, a Castle near it. And 'tis asserted that 800 Noblemen depended on, and made homage of their Lands to this Prelate, who on this account was surnam'd the Noble. *Bernard Gui* and *John Plantavit de la Pause* Bishops of *Lodeve*, have published Chronicles of their Church, *Denis Briconnet* and *Francis Bosquet* are likewise in the number of Authors.

The Diocese of *Lodeve* comprehends besides, the Towns or Burroughs of *Las Ribbes*, *S. Michel*, *Ganges*, *Brisac*, *S. Jean de Buege*, *S. Guillemey Desert*, with a famous Abby of *Benedictins* founded by one of the Ancestors of the Princes of *Orange*, *Mont-Peyroux*, *S. Jean de Foz*, *S. André*, *Clermont de Lodeve* and *Canet*.

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### *Of the Precinct of Nîmes.*

**T**His Precinct is not near so great as the ancient Territories of the *Volæ Arecomici*, who extended themselves through the Dioceses of *Montpellier*, *Nîmes*, *Uzès* and *Lodève*, enjoyed the Town of *Pezenas*, and even some Lands beyond the *Rhone*. Now it is restrained within the Episcopal Jurisdiction of *Montpellier* and *Nîmes*, and has the district of *Beziers* on the West, *Gevaudan* and *Vivarais* on the North and North-East, the *Rhone* on the East, and the Sea on the South. Its greatest length from *Frontignan* on the Pond of *Maguelonne* to the source of the *Erant*, is 17 Leagues North, and South, and its greatest breadth from *Beaucaire* on the *Rhone* to *Anagne* on the *Erant* 22 Leagues East and West; but in some places it is so very narrow, that it has hardly 4 or 5 Leagues.

*Montpellier*, 3 Leagues South of the Sea, 13 East of *Pezenas*, and 14 North-East of *Agde*, is call'd in Latin *Mons-pessulus*, *Mons-pessulanus*, *Mons-peslerius*, and *Mons-puellaris*; but every one may see that these are not old Latin names; and likewise this Town is hardly known in History, since 600 years, though it be now the biggest and richest in *Languedoc* after *Toulouse*. It is seated upon a Hill, whose foot is wash'd by



the small River *Lez*, which receives there another Rivulet called *Merdanson*, after it has serv'd to the uses of the Town. The original of *Montpellier* is related thus. There was formerly a strong and considerable City call'd *Maguelonne*, *Magalo*, in a Gulph, nam'd by *Pliny*, *Laterna*, and by the French, *l' Etang du Tau*, *de Lates*, or *de Perraut*. The foundation of *Maguelonne* is uncertain, for tho' the Coast of *Lower Languedoc* has been sometime in the power of the *Marseillois*, and *Stephanus* mentions *Alonis* as an Island belonging to them, whose Inhabitants were call'd *Alonites*, yet having no other testimony, a small and far fetched resemblance of names can scarce prove them to be one and the same. However it be, sure it is, that *Maguelonne* was an Episcopal City in the 5th and 6th Centuries, and a famous Seaport too, which was the cause of its ruin: For after the *Saracens* had conquered *Spain*, they spread themselves in *Lower Languedoc*, in 730, and threatened the whole Kingdom of *France*, with a Barbarian Invasion, when they were utterly routed by *Charles Martel* near *Tours*. As this great Captain had observ'd that they commonly landed at *Maguelonne*; when it had retaken this Town in 736, he raz'd it to the very ground, and transferred the Episcopal See to *Soustancion*, *Sextatio*, almost a Mile East of *Montpellier*. *Soustancion* is mention'd in the Geographical Tables of the Emperor *Theodose*, and in the Travels of *Æthicus*; but the Inhabitants finding the Situation of the place, where now *Montpellier* lies more convenient, and the Air sweeter, began to build there. Thus the new Village increas'd by degrees, during 300 Years



Years, that the B. of *Maguelonne* kept their Seat at *Soustancion*. But in 1060, *Arnauld Julian*, one of these Prelates, rais'd up the Walls of *Maguelonne*, fortify'd them with Towers, and the Haven, where the *Saracens* us'd to land being stop'd, built another in a more convenient place. Before this the Governour of *Maguelonne* had retir'd to a place call'd now *Manguis*, where he built a Castle under the name of *Melgueil*, and having usurp'd the Sovereignty of his Government during the troubles of the *French* Monarchy, he took upon him the Title of Count of *Melgueil* and *Soustancion*, and coyn'd a kind of small Money call'd the *Melgoris* pence. The Estates of these Counts pass'd in 1172 into the House of *Toulouse*, by the Marriage of *Ermesfende* their Heiress with *Raymond VI.* Surnamed the Old, and was confiscated upon his Son by Pope *Innocent III.* and the Council of *Lstran*, in 1215.

In the mean while, *Montpellier* increas'd apace; for it appears by a passage of *S. Bernard* Abbot of *Clairvaux*, that there was already a School or Seminary of Physicians, in 1155; and in 1156, we find mention of its Baths, which were farm'd by the Lords of that Town, as being of a considerable Revenue. However the first Institution of its University is commonly ascrib'd to the Disciples of *Averroes* and *Avicenne* in 1196, and its perfect establishment is said to have been made but in 1220. About this time the Lords of *Montpellier* were in great esteem. This Lordship was first derach'd from the Patrimony of the Counts of *Melgueil* to be the Portion of *Ekstorgia*, a Daughter of that



House: She had a Son call'd *Fulcran*, who became Bishop of *Lodeve*, and two Daughters, who bequeathed their Estates to the Church of *Mague-lonne* in 975. These Prelates sold *Montpellier* to a Gentleman nam'd *Gui*, on condition that he should keep it as a Fee of the Church, and defend it against the *Saracens*. The French Kings, and the succeeding Bishops of *Mague-lonne* confirm'd this gift or sale, so that *Montpellier* remain'd to his Posterity; who because of the increase of their Town, and the consideration it came to be in, allied themselves with very illustrious Houses, as the Kings of *Jerusalem* and of *Aragon*, the Dukes of *Burgundy*, and the Counts of *Foix*, and became at last Kings of *Majorca*. But this small Kingdom was the ruine of their Patrimonial Estate; for *James III.* King of *Majorca*, and Lord of *Montpellier*, having been depriv'd of his Realm by *Peter* of *Arragon* his Brother in Law, was compell'd by want and misery, to sell his Lordship to the French King *Philip* of *Valois* in 1349.

Physick has the precedency in the University of *Montpellier*, yet both parts of the Law are taught in one of its Colleges, by four Royal Professors, with power of making Licentiates and Doctors. There are besides a generality of the King's Treasurers, a Court of *Aides*, a Chamber of Accounts, a Mint, and a Pre-fidial-seat. *Montpellier* was one of the Towns of security, which *Henry IV.* had granted to the *Protestants*; but *Lewis XIII.* designing the ruin of this part of his Subjects, forc'd them by Arms to surrender this pledge of his protection, and took this City after a long Siege and a vigorous



gorous defence, in the Month of *October* 1622. Then it was that the Roman Catholics got again into their hands the Cathedral of *S. Peter*, for the Bishoprick of *Maguelonne* had been transferred thither in 1536, with the consent of Pope *Paul III.* *Soustancion* being now but a ruin'd Village. However they were still fewer in number, and have been so till this last Persecution. *Montpellier* is govern'd by six Consuls or Sheriffs, who are also *Vigniers* or *Baylies* of the Town, and have a great attendance. The Merchants have likewise their Consuls, under the name of *Consuls of the Sea*, to distinguish 'em from the Sheriffs, call'd *Consuls Majours*. There is a particular Court for Debts, whose Judge, surnamed *of the little Seal*, has jurisdiction over them, who submit to him by contract. Besides the University, the Churches, and the Palace of the Justice; there are other Buildings worthy to be taken notice of; as the Royal College for Humane Learning, the Cittadel, rais'd since the taking of *Montpellier* from the Protestants, and flank'd with four Bastions, two within and two without the Town: Near to its Wall is the Royal Garden of Simples, extraordinary well kept and furnished. The Ceremonies us'd in taking the degree of Doctor in Physick is worth seeing, were it only for their putting seven times on and off the Back of the new Doctor, the old Gown of *Rabelais*. The Confection of *Alkermès* is likewise made in a solemn manner, before the Magistrate, and one of the Professors of Physick. Their Triacle is in as great esteem as that of *Venice*, and their Powders of *Cypre*, Queen of *Hungary's* Waters, Es-



sences, and Scent-waters are vended through all Europe. The Inhabitants of Montpellier are also famous for making Verdegreefe, whitening Wax, working upon Silk with Mills and several other Manufactures. Add to this, that their Soyl is one of the best, and the Air one of the wholesomest in France.

*Lates*, mention'd by *Pomponius Mela*, under the name of *Castellum Latara*, and by more modern Authors under those of *Castrum de Latis*, and *Castrum de Palude*, is seated in an Island made by the Mouth of the *Lez*, *Ledum*, which discharges it self into a great Pond call'd by *Pliny Laterna*, and by *Mela Stagnum Volcarum*. This Island lies but a Mile South of Montpellier, and is reck'ned its Haven. A League more Westwards on the Mouth of the *Canla-*  
*zon*, lies the Town of *Ville-neuve*, over against *Maguelonne*, and 4 Leagues South-West, upon the same Lake or Pond of *Lates*, the Town of *Frontignan* so famous for its Muscadine Wines. *De Valois* takes it for the *Forum Domitii* of the Antients, so called from *Cn. Domitius Aenobar-*  
*ly*, who having vanquished the *Allobroges* and *Auvergnats*, was carry'd in triumph upon an Elephant, through the whole Province. Three Miles North-West you meet with the small Town of *Balaruc* renown'd for its Bathes. *Lunel*, *Lunate* 5 Leagues East of Montpellier gives its Name to a Bridge upon the *Vidourle*, over against the Town. It has a Monastery under the Name of *S. Peter*, but is more renown'd for being the Birth-place of a Learned Jew Rabbi *Salomon*, who took from thence the Sirname of *Farchi*. The other places of this Diocese  
are,



are, Montferrand, Murviel, Pignan, Fabregues. *Sanson* mentions a great many other, but he marks them all for Villages.

*NISMES*, *Nemausus Volcarum Arecomicorum*, lies seven Leagues North-East of *Arles*, and ten and a half North-West of *Montpellier*, in a fertile Plain, overshadowed with Fruit-trees, and at the foot of Hills cover'd with Vineyards. It's a very ancient City, though the time of its foundation be uncertain. *Stephanus* and *Suidas* after him ascribe it to one *Nemausus* of *Hercules's* posterity; whence *Du Chesne* infers, that it is a Greek Colony of the *Marseillois*; but as there have been many Hero's of that name, and that the Descendants of the Greek *Hercules* have been long in repute; this does not precisely determine the time of its first Building. *De Valois* derives it from a Fountain springing hereabouts, which *Ausonius* calls *Nemausus*; but it will still be doubtful, whether the City has given its name to the Fountain, or the Fountain to the City, and whence both have got this appellation. It will be more useful and diverting to consider the rise and various fortunes of *Nismes*, and withal the precious remains of its Antiquities. It owes its first increase to a Colony of Roman Soldiers, who return'd with *August* from the Conquest of *Egypt*, as appears by an ancient Inscription, which this City has taken for its Arms, COL. NEM. *Colonia Nemausensis*, the Colony of *Nismes*. Before that, *Julius Cesar* had put a Garrison in this Town, to defend it against the incursions of those of *Rouergue* and *Querci*. The *Volce Arecomici* were already one of the most powerful Nations of the



the Gauls, in the time of *Hannibal*, according to *Livy*; and under the Empire of *August* and *Tiber*, *Strabo* \* testifies that *Nismes* was the Metropolis of the *Volca Arecomici*, and that tho' it was not to be compar'd to *Narbonne*, as to the number of Strangers and Merchants; yet it exceeded this Capital of the Province, as to the State of its Government, for it had 24 Villages or Commonalties *Kάμαι*, under it, inhabited by considerable Persons; *Εὐαγγελία*, who enjoy'd the privileges of the Latins, so that one might find at *Nismes*, *Rom. Citizens*, who had discharged the Offices of *Edile*, or City Surveyor *Ἀγορανομία* and of *Quæstor* or Treasurer. *Ταμεία*, And therefore this Plantation did not answer before the Tribunal of the Governors that were sent thither from *Rome*. But though they were so favoured by the Senate and Emperors, a particular hatred they had against *Tiberius*, † made 'em throw down his Statues, while he was at *Rhodes*, and before he ascended the Imperial Throne. *Adrian* || rais'd here a famous *Basilique*, in honour of *Platina*, Wife to the Emperor *Traian*, who had much contributed to his Adoption, \* *Antoninus Pius* was originary from thence by his Father's side. In the decay of the Western Empire, the *Goths* conquered *Nismes*, with the rest of *Septimania*; and it then lost a great part of its lustre, but suffer'd much more by the devastations of *Attila*, of the *Saracens*, and afterwards of *Charles Martel*, who though he put it in Flames, was

\* L. 21. L. 4. † Suetonius. || *Æl. Spartian*.  
\* *Jul. Capitolin*.



not able wholly to destroy all the Monuments of the *Roman* magnificence. Notwithstanding these misfortunes, † *Nismes* was so soon repair'd, that under *Lewis the Meek*, it was again a rich and wealthy City, thick inhabited, wall'd in, and fortify'd with Towers; so that during the weakness of the *French* Monarchy, in 1129, the Governors of *Nismes* usurp'd the Sovereignty of it, under the Title of Viscounts, whose Estate was at the end of that Century, devolv'd to the Counts of *Toulouse*, and from them returned to the Crown of *France*. In 1569, the Protestants seiz'd upon this City, by the courage of a shrewd and venturesom Soldier, who, during the Night, fil'd at several times the Bars of the Grate, by which the Fountain of *Nismes* enters into the Town. Since it was yielded to them by *Henry IV.* as one of their Towns of security, which they enjoyed till *Lewis XIII.* deprived them of it. However they still kept some of their privileges, as to have one half of the Consuls, and of the *Regents* or School-masters of the Royal College, Founded by *Henry II.* of their Religion; but *Lewis XIV.* has by degrees taken from them, not only the small remains of their Liberties, but even their Temple, and the free exercise of their Religion.

The most remarkable remains of Antiquity in *Nismes* are its Amphitheatre, the Square-house, or *Maison quarrée*, the great Tower or *Tourre-magne*, the Fountain *Nemausus*, and the Temple near this Fountain.

† *Adrian. Vales.*



The Amphitheatre call'd by the Inhabitants *Les Arenes* is now but an Oval-Wall of 470 Steps, with 63 Arches, built up of very large Stones without Mortar or Plaster, which, however has not only withstood the ransackings of the *Goths* and *Saracens*; but even the Flames of *Attila* and *Charles Martel*, as appears by the black colour they are tainted with. Notwithstanding one may still discern the Figures of *Remus* and *Romulus* suckling a She-wolf, the Vultures that appeared to these Founders of *Rome*, two Bull-heads upon the ancient Gate of this Building, and two Towers upon the new Gate. The Seats whence the Spectators saw the Shews have been remov'd from thence, and the Caves where the wild Beasts were kept are now fill'd up with Earth. Nay the whole capacity of the Amphitheatre is taken up with Houses, at least since the year 1179; as may be prov'd by Patentees granted by the Viscount *Bernard Atten*, where the Inhabitants of *Nismes* and those of the *Arenes* are distinguish'd; which shews, that this City has not been rebuilt where it formerly stood; for anciently the Amphitheatre was without the Town, and Warriors have oft made use of it, as of a Fort or Citadel.

The Square-house, *La Maison quarrée*, is a kind of *Parellelogramme*, or long Square, being 74 Foot in length, and 41 Foot 6 Inches in breadth. Its front is adorned with 6 Columns, and each side with ten. The top is flat and cover'd with square Free-stones extraordinary large, so that one may walk upon it without any danger. As we do not know who rais'd



rais'd the Amphitheatre, we are not better acquainted with the Founder of this House, nor to what use it was fitted. For its form which has no likeness at all with the antient Basilicks, does not allow us to take it for that magnificent Building rais'd up by *Adrian*; neither is the vulgar name of *Cap-dueil* sufficient to make a Capitole of it, since no antient Author speaks of a Capitole of *Nismes*. But as its front has a great resemblance with those of the antient Temples; one may believe with the Learned *Spon* in his curious inquiries of Antiquity, that it was a Temple dedicated to *Jupiter Capitoline*.

Without the Walls of the City upon the top of a high Hill, rises an antient Building, call'd by the Inhabitants *Tourre-Magne*, the great Tower, because of its prodigious height, or that it exceeded by far all the Towers round about. For by the remains it seems to have been a Watch or Tower, built in the form of a Pyramide at one of the Corners of its antient Walls. One may still distinguish the Stairs, whereupon they ascended to the top, and the Niches or Casements, wherein they plac'd the Statues of their Gods. The whole Fabrick is of small square Stones, so well cemented together, that the most industrious Mason should not throw down two Foot of it in a day.

At the Foot of that Hill springs a most clear and pleasant Fountain, in the form of a Pond, with a Whirl-pool in the middle, wherein, if any Creature chance to fall, it is never to be seen again. This spring is the Source of the *Nistre*, so call'd from the brittle and transparent colour



colour of its Water, an *Epithete* given it by *Arsonius*, *Vitrea non luce Nemausus*. A branch of this Fountain runs through a Channel purposely drawn into the City. As to the course of the *Vistre*, you may see it in the Rivers of *Languedoc*.

Near this Fountain is an old Square-Temple, under-propt by two rows of Columns with their Bars, Chapters, Architraves, Friezes, Cornishes and Mouldings, all in a just proportion, together with Niches or Case-frames, and round Windows in the Walls, for the Statues of their Gods, and Eagles of emboss'd Work, whose Heads have been broken off by the barbarous *Goths*, *Huns*, or *Saracens* in contempt of the *Romans*. This Temple has been turned into a Monastery of Nuns; and because of the Eagles and other marks of its former magnificence, I should be apt to take it for the *Basilick* of *Adrien*, rather than the Square-house, or any other antient Building.

To avoid length, I shall not mention the many Statues and Inscriptions that are found in this City, nor insist upon the Monuments of newer date, as the Wine-Tower, *La Tour Vina-tiere*, so call'd Because built out of an excise upon Wine. *Mont-pouzien*, in the inclosure of the Monastery of *S. Bazille* is a Hill of Clay, that formerly was the burying-place of the *Jews*, for which, they us'd to pay a certain quantity of Pepper to the Monks. The King's Castle, the Column erected at the entry of *Francis I.* with a Salamandre upon it, the Clock-Tower, the Crown-gate with its Bulwark, and the Palace



lace of the Presidial are considerable Buildings.

*Sulpice Severe*, mentions a Council held at *Nismes* in 389, but does not name the Bishop of it. The first of whose subscription we read is *Gilbert of Nismes*, who assisted at a Synod, call'd in his Diocese by his Metropolitan in 886, and the old Notices of the *Gauls* name *Nismes*; but in the 4th. or 5th. place among the 8 Suffragans of *Narbonne*; so that the erection of this Bishoprick seems not to have preceded the 4th. or 5th. Age.

Four Leagues North-East of *Nismes*, lies the Village of *St. Privat*, renown'd for a most pleasant House belonging to a Gentleman, who bears the name of it, and adorn'd with delicious Gardens, Fountains, Grotto's, Water-spouts, Alleys, Green-closets, and the like. Over against it are the remains of the famous *Pont du Gard*, one of the Master-pieces of the *Romans*. It was intended to conduct the Waters of the Mountains of *Remoulins* to those of *Ledenon*, and thence into *Nismes*, for the uses of that City, but especially to represent Sea-fights in its Amphitheatre. It may be too, that the course of the River *Gard* or *Gardon*, which now runs under these Bridges was turn'd off thorough a Channel, that is yet partly in being, has six Foot in heighth, three in breadth, and is covered with large Stones. But more of it in the Diocese of *Uzès*.

Four Leagues South of *Pont du Gard*, and as many East of *Nismes*, lies the Town of *Beaucaire*, *Belliquadrum* or *Bellum quadrum*, that is  
fine



fine Square, undoubtedly so call'd from its Square form and pleasant Situation; for its seated upon the *Rhone*, next to the small Island *Valabregue*, and over against *Tarascon* in *Provence*, from which it's only separated by the River. It is the Seat of a Seneschal, but is much more renown'd for its Fair on the 22. of *July*, or *S. Magdalen's* day, whether come Merchants from most parts of the World, even from *Asia* and *Africa*. This Town belonged formerly to the Counts of *Provence*; but *Raimond Berenger I.* yielded it to *Alphonse Jourdain* Count of *Toulouse*, September 15. 1125. The Papists took it during the Wars of the *Albigens*, but the Inhabitants revolted from them to *Raimond* the Young their lawful Master. In 1251, *Charles* of *France* Count of *Provence*, holding a conference at *Beucaire* with his Brother *Alphonse*, Count of *Toulouse*, the Citizens of *Avignon* forc'd them to take the Oath of Allegiance to their Government. After *Alphonse's* death *Beucaire* return'd to the *French* Crown with the other Estates of those Counts. In 1561 the Protestants took this Town, and put Garrison in it under one *Hardwin* of *Porcelles*, and the Roman Catholicks having retaken it, they were expell'd the same day with the loss of 1200 Men. *Beucaire* had then a Castle upon the Rock, on the Rivers side, which has been since demolish'd in 1632, on occasion of new Civil Wars.

Three Miles South-West of *Beucaire*, lies betwixt Mountains the Town of *Belle-garde*, and 3 Miles South-East of *Belle-garde* the Village of *Fourques Furca*, so called because the *Rhone* di-

vides



vides here it self into three branches, much like to a Fork: 4 Leagues South-West of *Beaucaire*, and above two West of *Fourques*, lies upon a Rivulet the small Town of *S. Gilles Sti. Agidii Fanum*. It has its name from an *Anachoret*, who retir'd thither in the 6th. Century, and a famous Abby that was built there under his name, which has been since given to secular Priests. It's said that the *Gottish* Kings had there a Palace, and that this Town is to be understood by the name of *Palatium Gothorum*, which is found in the Authors of those times. At least it is sure that the Counts of *Toulouse* took the Title of Counts of *S. Gilles*, and that sometimes the whole Province was understood by that name. This Town belongs now to the Knights of *Malta*, under the Title of great Priory, and it was near it that the Protestants got a signal Victory over the Roman Catholicks, headed by the Count of *Somme-rive* in 1562. In a Neighbouring Forrest call'd *E-stagel*, is a Chair of Stone, which is thought to have serv'd the *Druides*, who us'd to render justice or to pronounce their Oracles in the Woods.

Four Leagues East of *S. Gilles*, lies upon the *Vistre* the Town of *Aymargues Armasanica*, to which *Vauvert Vallis viridis*, *Le Cayla* and *Aigues-mortes* are resorting. This last situated betwixt the Pond of *Maguelonne*, and the Western Mouth of the *Rhone* has been a famous Sea-port, where the *French* Kings us'd to imbark, when they went to the Holy Land; but the Haven has been stopp'd by the Sands, and the Town lies now two or three Miles from the Sea. The Pond *Laterna* and the *Rhone* have communication together



gether by a Channel, upon which this Town is seated, and which because of the little motion of its Water has given it the name of *Aigues-mortes*, *Aqua-mortua*. Before one enters into it, it meets with a Tower call'd *la Tour Carbonniere*, that was taken by the Protestants in 1562. The Town is of a square figure, surrounded with good Walls, and 16 strong Towers, among which that of *Constance* is the most considerable, as having a Phare or Beacon to direct the course of the Ships.

Three Miles Westwards upon the Western Mouth of the *Rhone*, lies the Fort of *Pecais*, built to defend the Salt-pits, which are here so abundant, that they suffice to furnish with it, not only *Languedoc* and the Neighbouring Provinces, but even Foreign Countries, if we believe *Du Verdier*, so that all the other Salt-pits, excepting those of *Peyriac* and *Sigean*, in the Diocese of *Narbonne* have been spoiled and drowned, not to make Salt too common. *Marsillargues* is a little fine Town, 5 Miles South of *Aigues-mortes*, and 2 North-West of *Lunel*, that has the Title of a *Viguery*. Higher up you meet with *Gaillargues*, *Aubais*, *Aignes-vives*, *Cavillon*, *Sommieres* upon the *Vidou le Sumerium* a *Viguery*, *Ville-vieille*, *Clarensac*, *Cour-Couronne*, *Quessas*, *Sauve Salvia*, a *Viguery*, *Pompignan*, *Ledignan*, *Cassagnolle*. *Anduze* *Andusia* another *Viguery*, upon the Southern branch of the *Gardon*, 21 Miles North of *Montpellier*, and 17 North-West of *Nismes*, was formerly a strong Town, and one of them who declar'd for the Protestants under the D. of *Rohan*, but *Lewis XIII.* having taken it, caus'd its Walls to be demolish'd.

St. Hip-



*St. Hippolite* lies betwixt Mountains near the source of the *Vidourle*, 5 Miles East of *Anduse*, and though it be none of the biggest, yet its Inhabitants had of late years the courage to Preach upon the ruins of their Temple, thinking that their example would be follow'd by their Neighbours; but they found themselves mistaken, and expos'd almost alone to the French King's rage, who caus'd the most part to be murdered or sent to the Gallies.

*Alais Alestum*, upon the Northern Branch of the *Gardon*, three Leagues North-East of *Anduse* follow'd the same fate, submitting to *Lewis XIII.* after the taking of *Privas* in 1629. It has the Title of a County, and formerly belong'd to the Counts of *Melgueil* now *Manguio*, issued from the Viscounts of *Narbonne*.

The Diocese of *Nismes* extends it self still more North-West to Mount *Lesperou* in the *Cevennes*, and contains besides the Towns or Burroughs of *Vezenobre*, *Toirax*, *Monsargues*, *La Sale*, *Sume-ne*, *S. Romans*, *Mondarchier*, *Le Vigan* *Vicanum* a *Viguery*, *Vissec*, *Arrey*, *Alzon* *Aumezas*, &c.

of



## Of the CEVENNES.

**T**His Country the most North-Eastern and Mountainous part of *Languedoc*, has the Dioceses of *Nismes* and *Lodeve* on the South, *Rouergue* on the West, *Auvergne* and *Forez* on the North, and the *Rhone* of the East. These Mountains reach a great way through *Auvergne* and *Languedoc*, but their extent is commonly reckon'd from *Lodeve* to *Montpezat*, near the source of the *Loire* about 30 Leagues, and the name of *CEVENNES* more properly given to the Country about *Anduze*, *Alais*, *St. Ambroise*, and *St. Hippolite*. The Greek Authors call these Mountains *Κέμννα*, and the Latin *Cemmeni Montes* or *Cebenna*. *Cæsar* says, that the *Auvergnats* were separated from the *Helvians* or Inhabitants of *Vivaraix* by the *CEVENNES*; but other Latin Authors, as *Pliny*, *Mela* and *Ausonius* give that name to all that long ridg of Mountains, from the *Rhone* to the *Pyrenées*, and the *Garonne*, which formerly divided the *Celtes* from the *Narbonnoise Gaul*. Nay some Geographers, as *Olivarius*, pretend that the Ancients comprehended, even the Mountains of *Auvergne*, under the general name of *CEVENNES*. Whatever be of that, here are several Lead and Tin Mines, and of Gold and Silver too, as *De Valois* believes,



lieves, which are not digg'd out and improved for want of Slaves. The Protestants were very strong in this Country, and the convenience of the Mountains enabled them to resist *Lewis XIII.* but no Foreign Power taking their part, and even their Brethren of other Provinces leaving them in the lurch they were soon forced to yield. In 1683, the Protestants beyond the *Loire*, or of the Southern parts of *France*, drew up a project, which had it been made sooner, or even then constantly and vigorously follow'd, would most probably have stopp'd the Persecution. (For *Lewis XIV.* how cruel soever he is, would have been loth to exterminate two Millions of Men.) Namely they agreed amongst them, as many as could come together from several parts in these troublesome times, not to comply willingly any longer, with the Edicts and Declarations given against 'em, in order to pull down their Churches, to forbid their Assemblies, to put their Pastors into Prison, &c. but to obey God rather than Men, and generously to encounter Death and Martyrdom, still keeping themselves in a passive and defensive way. But the Inhabitants of the Wealthiest Cities; especially of such where the number of Roman Catholicks prevail'd, could not assent to, nor put this project into Execution. They being thus divided, having no Head to command 'em, nor any settled union and correspondence amongst themselves; this Brave and Christian resolution came to nothing, being only perform'd in some parts of the *CEVENNES*, and of the Valleys of *Dauphiné*, where it serv'd for a pretence to the Ministers of the Popish



Popish barbarities, to represent 'em in Foreign Parts, as a set of seditious Men. However they never attacked any body; but because the King's Dragons pursued them into Forests and Desarts, whether soever they might retire themselves, the Men went arm'd with the Women and Children to keep them harmless. But the King's Officers took their time so well, that they seiz'd on the most couragious, and got 'em broken upon the Wheel. Those that remained united had the better fate, for many obtain'd passes to go out of the Kingdom. I have seen a young Man in *Holland*, who was one of the Heads of the *Vivarois*, that forc'd the Intendant or the King's Overseer in the Province, to grant him a Pass, and to 500 of his Camerades, and safely to conduct 'em on the Territories of *Spain*; whence, after they had suffered much by the blind and barbarous zeal of the *Spaniards*, and the cruelty of the Inquisitors, some at last made their escape into Protestant Countries.

The Precincts of **CEVENNES** comprehends three small Countries, each of which keeps its separate States after the Assembly of the General States of *Languedoc*, viz. *Vivarais* on the East, *Gevaudan* on the West, and *Velay* on the North.



## of VIVARAIS.

**V**IVARAIS comprehending the Dioceses of *Viviers* and *Uzés*, according to the division of some modern Geographers reaches 36 or 37 Leagues North and South from Mount *Pilate*, and the small River *Limonin*, on the Borders of *Lionois* to the River *Gardon*, that separates it from the Diocese of *Nismes*, and 12, 14, or 17 East and West from the *Rhone* to the Mountains *Cevennes*. But *VIVARAIS*, properly so called, contains only the Diocese of *Viviers*, which is large enough to have been the Inhabitation of the ancient *Helvii*, being still 22 Leagues North and South. This People were comprised, as well as the Inhabitants of *Uzés*, under the *Volca Arecomici*, made part of the Roman Province, or *Gallia Narbonensis*; and were so faithful to their Masters, that in the times of the conspiracy of the *Gauls* to recover their liberty, they made, of their own accord, incursions into *Gevaudan* and *Velay*; but were repuls'd. *Cn. Pompeius* made the *VIVAROIS* Subjects to the *Marseillois*.

*VIVARAIS* is divided into Upper and Lower by the River *Eryeu*, each having a Bayliwick, one at *Annonay* for the Upper, and th' other



at *Ville-neuve de Berg* for the Lower. Those parts that Border on the Mountains feed vast numbers of Sheeps and Herds of Cattel, but produce only Rye and a little Wine, whereas in the Plains, especially along the *Rhone*, there grows abundance of Hemp, Corn, and Fruits of all sorts, and such excellent Wines that *Pliny* makes mention of them. There are 12 ancient Barons, who by turns assist at the general States of *Languedoc*, and preside to the particular States of *Vivarois*, viz. 1. *Joyeuse*, 2. *S. Remaize*, 3. *Montlor*, 4. *Crussol*, 5. *La Voute*, 6. *Annonay*, 7. *Largentiere*, 8. *Tournon*, 9. *Boulogne*, 10. *Aps*, 11. *Brion*, 12. *Chalencon* annex'd to *Privas*. The Protestants were so numerous in this Province, that in many places, the Popish Priest said Mass only for his Clerk and himself.

*VIVIERS* lies 500 paces West of the *Rhone*, upon the small River *Scoutay*, above 3 Leagues South-West of *Montelimar*, almost 3 North-West of *S. Paul-Trois-Chateaux*, on the other side of the *Rhone* in *Dauphine*, and 18 North-East of *Nismes*. The Latin Authors call it *Vivarium*, since the 5th. Century. The original of that modern name is unknown, for the Capital of the *Helvians* was call'd *Alba Helviorum*, or *Alba Augusta*, and even gave the name of *Albenses* to the Inhabitants of the whole Country. Neither is it a firmly grounded conjecture, that the old Barony of *Aps*, seated betwixt Mountains, near the source of the *Scoutay*, should be the ancient *Alba Augusta*, which having been destroy'd by *Crocus*, King of the *Alamanni*, the Episcopal See should have been trans-



transferr'd to Viviers ; because that Translation is mention'd no where. The most ancient Prelate of it, spoken of in History, is one *Venantius*, who subscribed to the Council of *Epaone* or *Ponay*, as Bishop of *Albe* and *Viviers*, at the beginning of the 6th. Century. This Diocese contains 155 Parishes, and depends on the Metropolitan of *Vienne*. The Bishop takes the Title of Count of *Viviers*, and Prince of *Donzere* and *Chateaufneuf*.

*Annonay Annonacum*, a Marquisate upon the small River *Deume*, lies 3 Leagues West of the *Rhone*, and almost 19 North of *Viviers*, in a very fruitful Soyl. It's the Capital of Upper *VIVARAIS*, and the Seat of a Bayliwick. Some pretend that it was formerly a Store-house of the *Roman* Armies. Most of the Inhabitants embraced the Reformation in the last Age ; so that it remain'd under the Protestants, during the Civil Wars, notwithstanding the attempts the Leaguers made against it, in 1562 and 1563.

*Tournon, Turno Castrum*, because it was formerly but a Castle seated on a neighbouring Hill, lies upon the *Rhone*, over against *Thain* in *Dauphiné*, has the Title of a County, and has given name to an Illustrious Family, that has produc'd several Cardinals, and many Prelates. It's one of the ancientest Baronies in that Country, but is grown more famous and flourishing of late by a College of Jesuits, that draws thither great numbers of Scholars. It was Founded by *Francis* Cardinal of *Tournon*, Archbishop of *Lyons*, under *Charles IX*. This Town has besides a Collegiate Church and several Monasteries,



series, and the County extends its Jurisdiction over 72 Parishes.

*Aubenac, Albenacum*, is an indifferent good Town, upon the steep of a Mountain wash'd by the River *Ardesche*, almost 8 Leagues North-West of *Viviers*: Most of the Inhabitants were Reform'd. *Villeneuve de Berg*, lies near the source of the Rivulet *Hibie*, 11 Miles West of *Viviers*. But though it be the Capital of the little Country of *Les Botieres*; yet 'tis only considerable for its being the Seat of an inferior Judge or Bailly.

The other places of some note are, *Serrieres*, *Andance*, *Chasteaubourg*, *Cornaz*, *Crussol*, a County, *Soyons* a principality belonging to the Bishop of *Valence* in *Dauphiné*, *Charnes*, *Beau-Chastel*, *La Voulte*, *Poussin*, *Bays sur Bays*, *Meisse*, *Roche-Maurette*, *Le Teil*, *Le Bourg St. Andiol*; all seated along the *Rhone*, from North to South. In the middle of the Country, or near the Mountains, you find upon the River *Braune Joyeuse*, a Dutchy and Peerdom erected by *Henry III.* in 1581, *L'Argentiere* near the small Country of *Borne*, *Vauguel*, *Mirabel*, *S. Laurent*, *Boulogne l'Estrange*, *Meyras*, *Montpezat*, *Riontort*, near the Borders of *Velay*, 3 Leagues down the source of the *Loire*, where that River is yet so narrow, that a Lady having leap'd it over by putting a foot on a Silver Plate, she laid in the middle of the Channel, made the *Italians* believe, she had past over the *Loire* on a Silver-bridge. Then you meet with *Pierre-ville*, *Chalençon*, *Le Cheylars*, *S. Agreve*, &c.



## Of the Diocese of Uzès.

THIS Diocese is included betwixt the Rivers *Ardesche*, *Rhone*, and *Gardon*, and the Mountains *Cevennes*; having the County *Venaissin*, the Principality of *Orange*, and the *Tricastinois* to the East, *Vivarais* to the North, and *Gevaudan* with the Diocese of *Nismes* to the West and South-West. Its length and breadth are almost equal, being about 12 or 14 Leagues. But drawing a diagonal North-West and South-East from *Villefort*, near the Source of the *Ardesche*, on the Borders of *Gevaudan* to *Monfrain* on the *Gardon* near its fall into the *Rhone*, the *Uzègues* reaches above 18 Leagues.

*UZES*, *Viadomagus Volcorum Arecomitorum*, and in latter Ages *Uetia* or *Castrium Ueciense*, lies near the Spring of the small River *Aysene*, which after a course of 5 or 6 Miles discharges it self into the *Gardon*. *Magus* is an old Gaulish word, that signifies *Habitation*; and because *n* is oft chang'd into *r*, and *v* into *g*, as *Canentelus* for *Carantonus* *la Charante*; so *Vindo* may have been said for *Virao*, or *Vardo* the *Gardon*. In the ancient *Natives* of the *Gauls*, this Cathedral Church is put in the last place, or but one before the last; but since the erection of the new *Bishopricks*, *S. Pons de Tomieres* and



*Alet*; it is the 7th. in order. *UZES* had at first the Title of a Barony, then it was erected into a Dutchy, and at last into a Dutchy and Peerdom In 1572, for *Antony* of *Crussol*. Besides this the Bishop is Count of the Town, and the King is also *Conseigneur* or Lord Partner, and has his Seat of Justice, and his *Viguier* or *Bayly*; so that the King, the Bishop and the Duke, have each their Castle, and their Jurisdiction, which oft causes many disputes. *UZES* is pretty big, rich and trading, because of the Manufactory of Cloaths, the Serges of *UZES* being renown'd throughout all the Kingdom. Most of the Inhabitants had embrac'd the Reformation, following the example of their Bishop *John* of *S. Gelais*, who turn'd Protestant with all his Chapter, and sent for Ministers to *Geneva* in the last age; and there has been still a considerable Reform'd Church, even till these latter times. This City lies 4 Leagues of *Languedoc*, or eleven English Miles South of *Nismes*, and almost 8 common Leagues of *France*, North-West of *Avignon*.

Five Miles South-East of *UZES*, upon the River *Gardon* is to be seen the most sumptuous remainder of Roman Antiquities, that is extant perhaps in all the World. It's called *Pont du Gard* *pons Vardonis*, and consists of three Bridges built upon one another. The undermost has 6 Arches, and is the common road of Men and Beasts; the middlemost has eleven Arches, and the uppermost 30, the whole reaching to the height of 82 Foot. Under these Bridges is a Canal 6 Foot deep, and 3 broad cover'd with large Stones, through which the Water



Water of the Gardon was made to pass, and to ascend to the highest of those Bridges, whence as through an Aqueduct it was brought into Nismes, to serve for their Arens, Mills, and other uses. For Nismes being not seated on the bank of a River, and having but a small Fountain, as has been observ'd in its proper place, wants Water the most part of the Summer. These Bridges, tho not so entire as to be of use, are still however a glorious Monument of the Roman Grandure.

On the North-East, above 9 Leagues from UZES, lies Pont S. Esprit, a pretty strong Town, and an important passage upon the Rhone; Wherefore it has a Cittadel and a particular Governor. The Town has its name from a Bridge, that is a curious piece of Workmanship, being under-propt by 22 Arches, 1206 French Toises, or 7236 Foot long, and 90 Foot broad.

The other places of note in this Diocese, are Aramon, Ville-neuve-lex-Avignon, S. André, Rocquemaure, Condoules, all upon the Rhone from South to North. Villefort and Chambonas upon the Chassezat; Salavas and Ayguese upon the Ardesche, S. Ambroise, Monclus, Cornillon, Bagnols upon the Ceze: Les Vens, Bane, Bezas, Bargeac, Vagnon, La Bastide de Virac, betwixt those two Rivers: Genouillas and Chambourigaud near the Cevennes; Couvillargues and Lodun upon the Tave: Lussan betwixt the Ceze and Tave: Blanzac near the Gardon, St. Laurens des Aubres near the Rhone, &c.



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 OF GEVAUDAN.

**T**His Mountainous Country is separated from *Velay* and *Vivaraïs* by the *Allier* to the East; to the North it has *Upper Auvergne*, to the West *Rouergue*, and to the South the Diocese of *Nismes*; reaching 22 Leagues North and South, from beyond *Sialgues* to *Val Francesque*, and 18 East and West from *Lambrusche* to *S. Laurens de Revidol*. It's the habitation of the ancient *Gabales* or *Gabali*, who were subject to the *Auvergnats*.

Though this Country lies betwixt 43 Deg. 40 M. of Latitude, yet the Mountains are cover'd with Snow all the Winter, but the Plains nam'd *Lower GEVAUDAN* are indifferent fruitful. The Inhabitants of the Mountains call'd *Upper GEVAUDAN* or *GIVAUDAN*, as well as their Neighbours of *Upper Vivaraïs*, *Upper Velay*, and *Upper Limosin*, use to go into *Spain* every year before the beginning of the Winter, where they suffer themselves to be employ'd in the vilest Services to get their livelyhood. Wherefore the *Spaniards* use to call *Gavaches* from *Gavali*, poor, dirty, low-spirited Fellows.

*Pepin*, Head of the second race of the *French Kings*, Conquer'd this Country from *Gaifer Duke*  
of



of *Aquitain*. In the IX Century the Governors of *GEVAUDAN* usurp'd the Sovereignty of it, under the name of Counts. It fell afterwards to the share of the House of *Rouergue*, then to the Counts of *Toulouse*, and with their other Estates was re-united to the French Crown in 1271. It was for the most part in the power of the Protestants during the Civil Wars.

*Mende*, *Memmas*, *Memmate* or *Miminate*, is seated at the foot of a Mountain, hard by the River *Lot Olita*, 26 Leagues East of *Viviers*, and almost 20 East of *Rodez*. *Mende* is an indifferent good Town, but is of no long standing, for its Original is related thus. (a) In the third Century, under the Empire of *Valerian* and *Gallien*, the *Alamanni*, a German Nation, made an irruption into the *Gauls*, and overflow'd like a Torrent most of the Southern Provinces of France, under their King *Crocius*. They took, plunder'd, and ruin'd the City of the *Gabales* or *Gevaudan*, which is now but a poor Village call'd *Javaux* or *Javoux*, a word nearer to the Latin *Gabali*, than the very name of *GEVAUDAN*. Those that could make their escape retir'd into the Fortress of *Gredo*, now *Greze*, seated amongst Mountains, 3 Leagues South of *Javaux*, and almost four West of *Mende*; but the Bishop *S. Privat* fled into the Caverns of *Memmate* or *Mende*, whether the Germans follow'd, and kill'd him with blows. The Holy Prelate was interr'd in the neighbouring Village, that bore the name of the Cavern, and the veneration People had for his memory in-

(a) *Gregor. Turon. L. 1. c. 32.*



creas'd it by degrees to a considerable place. However it does not appear that the Episcopal Seat was transferr'd thither immediately after; for until the middle of the 10th. Century the Bishops of GEVAUDAN are call'd by no other name, but *Gabalitani Episcopi*, or *Episcopi Civitatis Gabalum* or *Gabalorum*; neither was *Javanx* ever rebuilt; so that I am apt to believe that two neighbouring Towns, *Marengo* or *Marveins* two Leagues South, and *Mende* eleven Miles South-West of *Javanx*, increas'd by its ruins; though the City of the *Gabales* still obtain'd the seventh rank among the 8 Episcopal Sees of the first *Aquitain*, but that the Prelates of GEVAUDAN fix'd at last their Seat at *Mende*; great numbers of People resorting thither by reason of the Sepulchre of *S. Privat*. The Bishop of *Mende* has a fine Palace there, he intitules himself Count of the Country by virtue of an Agreement made with the French King *Philip the Fair*, in 1306. He also pretends to be Lord Partner of the Town with the King, and to have right of coyning Money.

The other places of some consideration in this Country, are *Sialgues*, *S. Lazier de Malziou*, *Serverette*, *Chanac*, *La Canourgue*, *S. Chely du Tarn*, *S. Eremie*, *Quessas*, where during the Civil Wars the Protestants made a Booty of Relicks valued to 280 Marks; *Espagnac*, *Bagnols*, *Barres des Cevennes* known by its fairs, and *Montwert*. *Chateau neuf de Randon* is only a Village, but famous by the death of that brave Warrior *Bertrand du Guesclin* Lord High Constable of France. There are besides 8 Lordships that give the Title of Barons to those Lords that assist by



by turns at the General States of Languedoc, and preside at the particular of GEVAUDAN, viz. *Mercœur, Canillac, Apcher, Peyre, Senaret, Tournel, Randon, and Florac.*

## OF VELAY.

**V**ELAY, *Vellavus Pagus*, is included betwixt Vivarais on the East and South East, Gevaudan on the West and South West, Auvergne on the North West, and Foretz on the North, reaching 18 Leagues North and South from Aurech in Foretz to Jonchieres on the Borders of Gevaudan, and above 16 East and West from Clavas to Prades, in its greatest length and breadth. The Mountains of *Mezieres, Pertuis* and *Meigal*, which are cover'd with Woods, and run across the Country from North West to South East, divide it into Velay on this side, and Velay on that side the Woods. The Inhabitants are call'd by ancient Authors *Vellavi, Vallavi* and *Velauni*, and in *Cesar's* time were Tributaries to the *Auvergnats*; wherefore their Capital is named indifferently *Podium Avernorum*, and *Podium Vellavorum*, *le Puy en Auvergne*, and *le Puy en Velay*.

*Le Puy*, so call'd from the Mountain, on which it's seated, (*Puy* in old Gaulish signifying a Hill) lies 16 Leagues South West of *Annonay*, and almost



most 14 North East of *Mende*. It seems not to have been always the Capital of *Velay*; for *Protony* names it *Rovesio*, and the Maps of the Emperor *Theodosius*, publish'd by the Brothers *Peutingers*, *Reveffio*, which is taken by some modern Authors for *S. Paulian*, a small Town, two Leagues off *Languedoc* North, North West of *Le Pay*; whence, say they, *S. Evodius*, or as the vulgar call him *S. Vofy*, translated the Episcopal See to *Mont-Anis*, *Montem Anicium*; whereupon *Le Pay* has been since built. And accordingly *Gregory of Tours* (a) speaks of the City of the *Velauni*, and of *Anicium*, as of two different places. However, the time of this Translation is uncertain, and seems not to have preceded the sixth or seventh Century; for 'tis only since that time that the *Velauni* are call'd indifferently *Velauni* and *Prutes* or *Buates*.

*Le Pay* is now the biggest City in *Languedoc* after *Toulouse*, to whose Parliament its Bayliwick and Presidial-seat resort. The Bishop intitles himself Count of *Velay*, pretends to the Right of *Pallium*, to be free from the Jurisdiction of his Metropolitan the Archbishop of *Burges*, and to be immediately Suffragan to the Pope. He boasts to have in his Cathedral, dedicated to our Lady the *Praputium* (b) of our Saviour, or that Flesh that was cut off when he was circumcis'd, together with the mitre of *Aaron*, the first High-priest of the *Jews*; and such fine Relicks cannot fail of producing strange wonders, and drawing great numbers of People in order to present them with Oblations, which is the prin-

(a) L. X. c. 25. (b) Du Chesne.



principal aim. The Chapter is made up of a Dean, a Provost, a Singer, a Treasurer, a Sexton, the Abbot of S. Peter, the Abbot of S. Evodius, and 24 Prebendaries.

The other places worth taking notice of are, Montfaucon, Tence, Duniere, S. Didier, Monistrol en Velay, Craponne, Chalencon, Issignaux on the North East side of the Woods, S. Paulian, La Volte, Solignac, S. Privat, Chapreys, Le Monastier, S. Chastie, on the South West.

ROMAN ROAD

~~The Roman Road is a fine specimen of the Roman architecture. It is a straight line of masonry, with a central channel for the road, and side channels for the drainage. The road is built of large stones, and is very well preserved. It is a fine specimen of the Roman architecture, and is a fine specimen of the Roman architecture.~~

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## CHAP. XVI.

## OF PROvence.

**I**T's known that 60 or 70 years before the intire Conquest of the *Gauls* by *Julius Caesar*, the *Romans* having vanquish'd the *Salians*, and the *Allobroges* in 631 and 632 of *Rome*, reduc'd into a Province the South-Eastern part of the *Gauls*, included betwixt the *Cevennes*, *Mount-Jura*, the *Alps* and the *Mediterranean Sea*, and call'd *Gallia Braccata*, or the *Gauls* wearing *Breaches*. They pleas'd themselves more in this Country, than in any other of their Conquests, for which reason they us'd to name it *Our Province*, or absolutely the *Province*. In process of time several Changes, Divisions and Subdivisions having been made, that part nearest to the *Sea*, and *Italy* carried alone the name of *Provincia*, or *Provence* in the Country Language; probably because of the strict relation it kept with *Italy*, in the midst of all those *Revolutions*.



*Gallia Narbonensis* was subdivided into five Provinces, the first and second *Narbonnoise*, the *Viennoise*, the *Greek*, the *Apennin*, and the *Maritim Alps*. **PROVENCE** is made of the second *Narbonnoise*, except *Gap*, the *Maritim Alps*, except *Embrun*, together with the Dioceses of *Vaison*, *Orange*, *Carailon*, *Avignon*, *Carpentras*, *Arles*, and *Marseille* taken from the *Viennoise*. And therefore it borders to the North on the *Tricastinois*, *Diois*, *Gapençois* and *Embrunois*, which make part of *Dauphiné*, to the East the *Alps*, and the Rivers *Var* and *Tence* separate it from the County of *Nice* and *Marquisate* of *Saluces*, to the South and South East it has the *Mediterranean Sea*, and to the West the *Rhone* divides it from the Dioceses of *Nismes* and *Uzès* in *Languedoc*; so that it reaches above 42 Leagues North and South, from *La Breoulx* on the frontiers of *Embrunois* to *Cape de Dormes* in the *Isle* of *Porquerolles*, and above 53 East and West, from the Confluence of the *Tence* and *Var* to the *Rhone*, betwixt *Condoules* in *Languedoc*, and *Caderousse* in the Principality of *Orange*.

In the decay of the Roman Empire, the *Wisigoths* and *Burgundians* conquer'd this Province. *Theodoric* an *Ostrogoth* King having master'd *Italy*, seiz'd upon **PROVENCE** under pretence of Guardianship to *Atalaric* King of the *Wisigoths* his great Grandson. The French King *Clovis*, and his four Sons expell'd the *Goths* out of **PROVENCE**; and when, that famous General of the Emperor *Justinian*, *Belisarius* had reconquer'd *Italy* by the defeat of *Theodat* and *Vitiges* Kings of the *Goths*, he thought fit to yield **PROVENCE** to the French, lest he should draw  
such



such powerful Enemies upon him. In the division the Sons of the Emperor *Lewis the Meek* made of his Dominions, **PROVENCE** together with *Italy* fell to the share of *Lotharius* the eldest of 'em. And though during the weakness of the *French Monarchy*, Counts usurp'd the Sovereign Power in **PROVENCE**, as did one *Robaud* or *Retbald* about the year 900, which was continued almost six Centuries through several Families; yet these Counts were sometimes Kings in *Italy*, as *Bason*, his Son *Hugh*, and the Dukes of *Anjou*, who were Counts of **PROVENCE**, and Kings of *Naples* and *Sicily*, from *Charles II.* call'd the *Lamb* in 1285 to *Charles IV.* Surnamed *du Maine*, that bequeathed by his Will the County of **PROVENCE** to *Lewis XI.* and the *French King's* Successors in 1481.

The Rivers of **PROVENCE**, besides the *Buech* and the *Durance*, that are describ'd in *Dauphiné*, are the Rivulets of *Sasse*, *Jabron*, *Bleone*, *Targue*, *Lavo* and *Asse*, falling into the *Durance* from *Sisteron* to *Manosque*. The *Verdon* rises in the Mountains of the Diocese of *Digne*, washes *Colmars*, *Castellane*, *Montpezat*, receives the *Issole*, the *Nartabre*, and the *Anvestre*, and mixes with the *Durance* at *S. Paul*. The Rocks and steep downfalls of the *Durance* hinder it from being navigable, till about this place; however it's yet increas'd with the *Tese*, the *Durancole*, the *Calevan*, that goes through *Apt*, and some other Rivulets, before it discharges it self into the *Rhone*, betwixt *Avignon* and *Barbentane*. The *Lauveze* springs in the *Baronies*, at a place call'd *Montauban*, goes through *le Buys*, *Miolans*, *Vai-ron*, receives the *Russe* that waters *Carpentras*,  
and



and the *Sorgues* at *Pont de Sorgues*, that falls into the *Rhone*, 2 Leagues North of *Avignon*. The *Tolobre* and the *Arc* and *Lionne* fall into the Gulph of *Martegue*: The *Veauve* into the Bay of *Marseille* near *Chateau d'if*; the *Aran* discharges it self into the Sea near *La Clutat*; the *Gapcau* near *Hyer*, the *Batailler* into *Cape negre*, the *Gisole* into *Gulf de Grimaud*. Then you meet with the *Alla*, the *Candune*, the *Caranne*, the *Canjou* or *Chalilan*, the *Pis*, the *Tendole*, which joyn together betwixt *Roquebrune* and *Frejus*, and mix with the Sea near *Cape S. Vincent*. Farther Eastwards are the *Rairan* or *River d'Agan*, the *Bencon*, the *Siagne*, and the *Loup*. At last you find the *Var*, that takes its source in *Embrunois*, receives the *Tuebie*, the *Coremp*, the *Vaine*, goes through *Glandeves*, and *La Pene*, is increased with the *Tence*, the *Vesubie*, and the *Esteron*, and disembogues its Waters into the Sea, betwixt *Nice* and *S. Laurens*.

**PROVENCE** view'd in a Map affords but an unpleasant prospect, for it seems as though the greatest part of it were cover'd with barren Mountains. However it is not so, for except in some few places of the Bayliwick of *Seyne*, bordering upon *Embrunois*, all the other Mountains are fruitful Hills or Hillocks, which not only produce the best Corn, and the most delicious Wine in *France*, but sometimes one and the same Mountain will yield such Fruits as require a different Climate; being cover'd on the South side with Vines, Plume, and Olive-trees, Pomegranates, Oranges, Citrons, Limons, and on the North side with Cherries, Apples, Pears, Almonds, and Walnuts. Neither does the Country



try want Pastures and Woods, especially in the Northern parts, though the latter be not in great quantity, because of the industry of the Inhabitants. The Air is as temperate as the Soyl is fruitful, for the Sky is clear most part of the year, and rain falls very seldom. The Southern parts along the Sea-coast would be very hot, were it not for the *Bize* or North Wind, that refreshes and purifies the Air, but creates a severe cold when it blows in Winter. Those that keep there Sheep and Herds of Cattel send them in Summer to *Devolai* and other Mountains of *Dauphiné*, having Pastures of their own, the greatest part of the Winter. They make vast quantity of Silk, by feeding Silk-worms with leaves of Mulberry-trees, as also Salt upon the Sea-coasts. Thence are transported into Foreign Countries the *Salicor*, a kind of Ashes fit to make Glasses and Soap of; together with Saffron, Vermilion, Cork, and Rosin, an oily juice running out of the Male Pine-trees. The few heaths and wastes that are there; are covered with Thyme, Hysop, Lavander, Rosemary, Sage, Juniper, and Myrtle-trees.

The *Provençaux*, or Inhabitants of *PROVENCE* are ingenious and industrious, *Dante* and *Petrarcha*, two famous Italian Poets, ascribe to their *Troubadors* or *Trouveres* the invention of Rythm'd Poetry, and they make still indifferent good Rythms in their Country Language. The Protestants have not been very many in *PROVENCE*, since the barbarous Murther committed on the *Vaudois* of *Merindol* and *Cabrières*. When I liv'd there, that is 15 years ago, they had but 7 or 8 Churches, which are since destroyed



stroy'd with all the others of *France*: In those days they already complain'd of their exorbitant Taxes, with a very expressive Proverb, *Lou Languedoc is ruinad, La Prouvence es accomencade*. The ruin of *Languedoc* is finished, and that of *PROVENCE* is begun; but now I believe they have but little reproach one another.

*PROVENCE* is divided into Upper and Lower: The Upper lies on the North side of the River *Durance*, *Verdon*, and *Esiron*, nearer to *Dauphiné*, and the Lower on the South side, along the Sea-coast; but lest I should forget some part of it, I shall treat of each Diocese after one another, and begin with *Aix* the Capital.

of



## Of the Diocese of AIX.

**T**His Diocese is included betwixt those of *Marseille, Arles, Apt, Riez, Frejuls and Toulon*, and is the biggest of all, reaching 26 Leagues East and West from beyond *Cotignac* near the Diocese of *Frejus* to the Plains of *la Crau*, and about 10 North and South. This Country was anciently inhabited by the *Salians, Salyes, Salyi, or Saluvii*, and 'tis in this Territory that *C. Marius* gave a total overthrow to the *Cimbres* killing 150000 of them.

The City of AIX, *Aqua Sextia*, or *Aquensis Civitas*, is within a Musket-shot of the little River *Arc*, 5 Leagues of *Provence* North a *Marseilles*. It is very Ancient. *Caius Sextus* a Proconsul carried thither a Roman Colony, in 632, of *Rome*, and made the warm Bathes from which it draws its name, though the Bathes be not longer in being. It is graced with an Archbishopsrick, a Parliament, a Court of Accounts, a Court of *Aydes*; the first Seat of the Seneschal of *Provence*, a Generality, a Chamber of Mint, a Lieutenant General of the great Seneschal of the Province, an Ordinary Judge for the Town, and another for the King called *Viguier*; besides an University for the Law and Physick; it has been plunder'd by the *Lombardi*



*hardi and Saracens*, in the 4th. and 7th. Centuries. The Counts of *Provence*, who lived there did enlarge it; but 'tis much altered for the better upon all accounts since that time, and is one of the pleasantest, and best built Cities in *France*. *S. Saviour* is the Metropolis, where is a high Hexagon Tower to be seen; the Font is of an admirable Structure, and all of white Marble, supported by fusile Columns round about like a Dome; The Chappel of our Lady of *Grace* is very rich, and that of *S. Maximin* very Ancient and Holy. The Chapter consists of a Provost, an Archdeacon, a *Capiscol*, a Sexton, a Penitentiary, and 15 Canons; there are also some Incumbents or Prebendaries, and a most delicate Musick, two other Parishes, viz. *S. Magdalen*, and the Holy Ghost, divers Monasteries, and a College of Jesuits.

*S. Maximin* above 9 Leagues East of *AIX*, is the Seat of a Bailly, but much more famous for a pretended *S. Ampulla*, and the Body of *S. Mary Magdalen* said to be kept here in a Collegiate Church, serv'd by *Dominican* Fryers. Many amongst us would rather chuse the Case than the Relick, for the Case is all of pure Gold, being the figure of a Woman, held up by two Angels, and Crown'd with a golden Crown enriched with Diamonds; whereas the Relick may be, for ought I know, the Skeleton of some old Bawd.

Nine Miles South West of *S. Maximin*, lies in the midst of a thick wood the Cavern of *la S. Baume*, where the Legendaries say, that *S. Mary Magdalen* passed 33 years in a retir'd and penitent life; after she was arriv'd thither from *Palestina*



*Palestina* in a rotten Ship, without any Pilot, in company of *Lazarus*, *S. Martha*, and *Cesidonius*, pretended to be that young Man Eorn blind, whom our Saviour cur'd. This Cavern is spacious being near 500 Foot high, and the Rock wherein 'tis digg'd is all of white Marble. The place belongs to the Diocese of *Marseille*.

*Brignole*, *Brinonia*, so famous for its Pluims, is likewise the head of a Bayliwick; as also *Barjols* or *Barjoux*. The other places of note are, *Esparonde de Pallieres*, *Rians*, *Tonques*, *S. Paul*, *Sambuc*, *Peyroles*, *Lambese*, *Pelissane*, *Alencon*, *Aguiles*, *Fuveaux*, *Peinies*, *Trets*, *Porrieres*, *Torrevez*, *La Val*, *Carces* a County, *Cotignac* and *Foz*.

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Of



## Of the Diocese of Riez.

**T**His mountainous and small Country, borders upon the Dioceses of *Aix*, *Apr*, *Sisteron*, *Senex*, and *Frejus*, and is water'd by the *Verdon*. It was the habitation of the ancient *Albici*, *Reii*, *Segoregii*, or rather *Segoreii*, who from the Worship of *Apollo* were surnam'd *Apol-linares*. Their Capital *Alebece Reiorum*, *Apol-linarium* is ancients than *Aix*, which as it has been observ'd was a *Roman Colony*, whereas this City seems to have been built by the *Natives*, who before that time did often wage War with the *Salians* and *Massilienses*. It is a little Town well built, seated on the Source of the *Anvestre*, almost 16 Leagues North East of *Aix*. The Bishop is Lord Temporal of it, and the second Suffragan of *Aix*. The Cathedral is dedicated to our Lady. The famous *Semipelagian Faustus Reiensis* was Bishop of it. There have been found many ancient Inscriptions.

The most considerable places are *La-Pala*, where is the famous Hermitage of *S. Maurin* *Monstiers* a Bayliwick, *Pymoisson*, *Valencole*, *Al-leinagne*, *Montpezat*.



## Of the Diocese of SENEZ.

THIS Country is also very mountainous and small, and water'd by the *Verdon*. It's included betwixt the Dioceses of *Riez*, *Sisteron*, *Digne*, *Glanderez*, *Vence*, *Grasse* and *Frejus*. This Diocese made part of the Province call'd *Maritim Alps*, and was anciently inhabited by a People nam'd *Vesdiantii* by *Ptolomy*, and *Vendiantii Cemenelii* by *Pliny*; so that there was another Bishoprick *Cemenelinum*, which is perhaps *Castellane*.

The City of *SENEZ*, *Sanitium Vesdiantiorum Civitas Sanitiensium*, or *Sanitio*, is very small and little inhabited; its Bishop is Suffragan of *Ambrun*; it is seated betwixt Mountains, on the source of the *Asse*. Its Prelate resides now at *Castellane*, upon the *Verdon*. The Chapter that was of the Order of *S. Austlin*, was made Secular by *Innocent X.* in 1647. it is composed of a Provost, an Archdeacon, a Sexton and 5 Canons, of which one is Chamberlain. The Cathedral is consecrated under the name of the Assumption of the B. Virgin.

The places of some note are, *Castellane* a Bailiwick, *Colmars*, *Mevoiles*, *Clumeng*, *Lembrusche* and *Barremes*.



Of the Diocese of DIGNE.

**T**His Diocese is one of the smallest, and of the least revenue in *France*, bringing hardly 3. or 400 *l.* to its Prelate, and having not above 27 Baptismal Churches. It lies betwixt those of *Senez*, *Sisteron*, and *Ambrun*. It is very mountainous, and water'd by two small Rivers, the *Issolet*, and the *Bleone*. It was formerly inhabited by the *Bodiontii* and *Sentii*, who had *DIGNE*, *Dinia*, or *Dina* for their Capital, that 800 years ago was a considerable place being divided into City and Burrough. The City has still three Gates, is surrounded with Walls, and defended by square Towers; and the ruin'd Walls of the Burrough shew it to have been 600 paces in Circuit. Its first decay came from that King *Renatus*, Count of *Provence*, transferred to the City the Fairs that were in the Burrough, An. 1437, and during the Civil Wars of the last Age, the Inhabitants retiring to the City, as to the strongest place, left the Burrough almost Desert.

*DIGNE* is seated at the Foot of a Mountain, wash'd by the River *Bleone*, which receives there the *Mardarie*, a Rivulet of warm Water, that makes this City famous for its Bathes. It has a *Seneschal* Seat, a *Bailiwick*, and a *Bishoprick*

A a

Suffragan



Suffragan of *Embrun*. Our Lady is the Cathedral Church, whose Chapter which was once Regular, of the Order of *S. Austin*, is now composed of a Provost, a Chaplain, a Sexton, and 9 Canons, of which one is an Incumbent, with 8 Prebendaries more, and 2 Parsons.

The most considerable places are, *Mirabel*, *Aiglun*, *Corbons*, *Brusquet-Toart-Collobrioux*, and *Verdache*. As to *Seyne*, which *Robbe* and his transcriber *Dela Groix* put in this Diocese, it depends upon *Embrun*.

### *Of the Diocese of ARLES.*

THIS Diocese extends 18 Leagues East and West, from *Salon* on the Borders of the Diocese of *Aix* to *Peccais* in *Languedoc*, and 14 North and South, from beyond *Turasion* to the Mediterranean Sea.

The City of *ARLES*, *Arelus*, *Arelata*, *Arelate*, or *Arelatum*, lies upon the *Rhone* with an Archbishoprick, a Seneschal's Seat, and an Academy of Humane Learning associated to that of *Paris*. It was formerly the Chief of the Kingdom of *Burgundy* and *Arles*: The Romans settled there their Sixth Colony, and there are still to be seen the remains of an Amphitheatre, of an Obelisque, a great many Mausolees (or Stately Tombs) of the Ancients without the



the City, and many other considerable Monuments of Antiquity. The Original of ARLES is uncertain because too ancient; 'tis sure that it is of *Gaulish* Foundation.

At first there were only Houses on the East side of the *Rhone*; but the Emperor *Constantine* the Great, built a new Town on the West side, and joyn'd it to the old with a fine Bridge. He pleas'd himself extremely in this City: Here it was, that his youngest Son *Constantine* was Born, that he call'd a Council against the *Donatists*, that he established the Seat of the Captain General or Governor of the *Gauls*; and besides that, he would it to bear his name, and to be call'd *Constantina* for the future, though his orders as to that, have not been obey'd.

The Church of *Arles* is said to have been founded by *S. Trophime*, Disciple of *S. Paul*. The Secular Power of this City has contributed much to that of the Church. It was at first Suffragan to *Vienne*, but erected to a *Metropolis*, under the Empire of *Honorius*. Then it had 8 Suffragans, viz. *Marseille*, *Orange*, *S. Paul-Trois-Châteaux*, *Toulon*, *Avignon*, *Vaison*, *Carpentras*, *Cavaillon*. But *Avignon* having been made a Primate, has carried away the 3 last with it self: To compensate this loss, the Popes made the Archbishops of ARLES. Vicars of the Roman See in the *Gauls*; with power to declare *Easter*, to ordain Bishops, and to celebrate Councils. The Chapter of the Cathedral consists of 20 Canons, among which there is a Provost, an Archdeacon, a Sexton, an Arch-priest, a Capiscol, a Treasurer, a Primicier, and a Theologal; there are also 20 Prebendaries, or



**Incumbents :** It was made Secular in 1497, under *Nicolas Cibo*. The Territory of this City is 30 Leagues in Circuit, consisting in two Islands, called Great and Little *Camargue*, formed by two Branches of the *Rhone*, and in the *Crau*; the latter is a large extent of Land covered with Flint Stones; on which *Æschylus* says, that *Jupiter* rain'd Stones to destroy the *Ligurians*, that were fighting against his Son *Hercules*. This stony Champaign produces little Wine and Corn, but there are vast quantities of Simples and Vermilion. As to the *Camargue*, which has its name from *Caius Marius*, vanquisher of the *Cimbers*; the Pastures that these Islands bring forth are so good, that the Cattel that feeds upon them, grows extraordinary fierce and strong.

*Tarascon, Tarasco Salyorum* was the Capital of the *Salyes* before the building of *Aix*. It lies 3 Leagues North of *ARLES*, and above 5 South West of *Avignon*, upon the River *Rhone*, over against *Beaucaire*, next to a little Island, which as it increases every day, so it will at last make the Proverb prove a lye. That,

*Betwixt Thain and Tournon.*

*Betwixt Beaucaire and Tarascon,*

*There feeds neither Cow nor Mutton.*

This I observe to shew that new Islands may be form'd by the Rivers and Sea, washing and carrying away the ground, and letting it subside when they meet with a stop. *Tarascon* has an indifferent good Castle, built by *Renatus II.* of *Stilly*, and Count of *Provence*; a Collegiate Church,



Church, wherein they boast to have the Relicks of *S. Martha*, and several Monasteries. Besides this, 'tis the head of many Villages resorting to its *Viguier*. There happen'd of late a pretty Story: A Man digging in his Cellar, met with a Wall and an Iron-gate, which he caused to be open'd, and found it led into a vaulted way, but there he heard such a frightful noise, that he durst not proceed farther. The Magistrate was advis'd of it, and with much ado got a Man condemn'd to dye to go through, who at the end of that way met with another Iron-gate, which was likewise shut, and at which he knock'd in vain. He related that the noise increas'd whilst he went along, but that as he came nearer to the other Gate, it seem'd as though he left that noise behind him. This relation kindled the stronger the *Magistrate's* curiosity, who still big with the hopes of undiscover'd Treasures, got some Masons to go and open the Gate, by promising them the 25th part of whatever should be found: They perform'd it accordingly, and found that this Gate led into *Beaucaire*. Since what time the Masons of *Tarascon* use to say in a jeering way, that the 25th. part of *Beaucaire* belongs to them.

The other places of note are, *Salon*, a pretty good Town with a Principality, depending upon the Archbishop of *ARLES*, but more known for being the Birth and burying Place of that famous Astrologer *Michael Nostradamus*. *Les Baux*, a Marquisate belonging to the Prince of *Monaco*, and formerly a Principality belonging to the Princes of *Orange*. *S. Martin* in the *Crau*, *Notre-Dame de Dormet*, and *les Trois Ma-*



ries in the great Camargue ; S. Remi, S. Gabriel, Orgon, Senas, S. Chamas, Berre that has good Salt-pits, Vitrolles, Istres, Marignane, Ferriere, the Isle of Martegue, Jonquieres, &c. But I conclude, because the remarkable things that are in the Diocese of ARLES would require a whole Volume.

### Of the Diocese of Marseille.

**T**His Diocese that lies on the Sea-coast is very narrow, having the Gulf and Island of Martegue on the West, the Archbishoprick of Aix on the North, the Bishoprick of Toulon on the East, and the Sea on the South.

The City of MARSEILLE, *Massilia*, or *Mas-salia*, is upon the Mediterranean Sea, with a Bishoprick Suffragan of Arles, an Admiralty, a Seneschal's Court, a Bayliwick, and other Jurisdictions ; its Port is sheltered from Winds, and so good, that it has never been heard a Ship has perished in it. And therefore it's the usual abode of the Gallies, and where most Merchant-men of the *Levant* do resort ; which render it very Populous and Trading. The *Phoceans* or *Phocenses*, who came from *Phoea*, a Colony of Athens in that part of Asia called *Ionis*, were its Founders. In *Cesar's* time this City was flourishing, was a kind of Republick,



lick, and had a famous University. The Romans had a great esteem for it, and made an Alliance with it. It has undergone many revolutions, and sustained many Wars; it has had its Viscounts, and divers other Sovereign Lords, and was at last united to the Crown at the same time, as the rest of *Provence*, viz. in 1481. This City has been the Mother of many great Men, and is now one of the biggest, finest, and best built of the Kingdom; since it has been enlarged by the *French King's* order. The Port, the Arsenal, the Cittadel, the Gallies; many other Buildings, the South Walk or Race, the New Streets, the Markets, the neat and stately Houses, Churches, Monasteries, Seminaries, Hospitals, the College of the Fathers of the Oratory, the Fountains, &c. are worth the curiosity of Strangers.

I would have spoken here of the Original of MARSEILLE, of its Foundation by the *Phœceans* and *Cenomani*, of its Government, Laws, Academy of Humane Learning, of its Manufactories, Trade, Wars, Conquests, Colonies, of its Alliance with the *Romans*, of the Changes, and Revolutions it has undergone under the *Goths*, *Sarracens*, the *French Kings*, the Counts of *Provence*, and its own Viscounts.

The other places of note in this Diocese are, *Aubagnes*, *Roquevayre*, *Olliols*, *Cassis*, *La Ciotat*, famous for its Muscadine Wines, and for the Fabrick of *Polacres*, a kind of Vessels us'd on the *Mediterranean Sea*, *Olliols*, *La Cadiere*, *le Castelet*, &c.



## Of the Diocese of TOULON.

**T**HE Diocese of *TOULON*, lies also upon the Sea coasts to the East of that of *Marseille*, to the South of that of *Aix*, and to the West of that of *Frejus*.

The City of *TOULON*, *Telo Martins*, lies upon the Mediterranean Sea, almost 15 Leagues East of *Marseille*, with a very fine Port and Road, a great Arcenal, a Bailiwick, and a Bishoprick Suffragan of *Arles*. It is very ancient; *Hen. IV.* fortified it with good strong Walls, and built there two great Moles of 700 Paces each, which do almost cover all the Port. This present King has finish'd this Work, begun by his Grandfather, whose description would require a great Volume; there are fine Houses, a great many Churches and Monasteries, the Cathedral has many Relicks, its first Bishop is esteem'd to be *S. Honoratus*, and *Hyer* is a little Town, four Leagues East of *TOULON* on the Sea, over against the Isles *Hyer*. It has a Viguary, and many Burroughs and Villages depending on it. The other places are *Sifours*, *Cenari*, *Salyes*, *La Valette*, *Turris*, *Cuers*, *Le Puget*, *Pierrefnec*, *Bormes*, &c.

of



## Of the Dioceſe of FREJUS.

**T**His Dioceſe lies alſo upon the Sea-Coaſt, betwixt thoſe of Toulon, Aix, Riez, Senez, and Grace, reaching 15 Leagues Eaſt and Weſt, and 17 North and South.

This Country was anciently inhabited by the *Suelteri* or *Selteri*. The Capital *Frejus*, *Forum Julii*, or *Civitas Foro-Julienſis*, is a Colony of the Romans, and had formerly ſo good a Haven, that the Emperor *Auguſt* kept there his Fleet for the defence and ſecurity of the *Gauls*.

This City lies now in a Fen, half a League from the Sea, on the River *Argens* with an indifferent Port, and a Biſhoprick the 4th. Suffragan of *Aix*; there are ſome remains of Antiquity to be ſeen: for this City is very ancient, and was very conſiderable heretofore, as may be ſeen in many famous Authors.

The other places of note are, *St. Trépès*, a good Sea-port Town, ſeated on *Golfe de Grimaut Sinus*, or *Plagia Samblacitana*. *Draguignan* another good Town, upon the River *Pi* 6 Leagues and a half North Weſt of *FREJUS*, the Seat of the Viguier of this Dioceſe, *Callian*, *Fayence*, *Seillans*, *Bargemes*, *Comps*, *Bargamon*, *Caillas*, *Figueniero*, *Taurene*, *Flayofe*, *Lorgues*, *Trans*,



*Les-Arqs, Le-Muy, Le-Luc, Cogolin, Grimaud;  
Roquebrune, La-Napole.*

## *Of the Diocese of GRACE.*

**T**HE Diocese of *GRACE* lies on the East of that of *Frejus*, on the West of that of *Vence*, and the South of that of *Senex*: It was anciently inhabited by the *Deciates*, one of the *Ligurian* Nations, that liv'd on this side of the *Alps*.

The City of *GRACE*, *Grassa*, lies on a small River, two Country Leagues North of the Sea, with a Bishoprick Suffragan of *Ambrun*; a *Viguery* or a Court of Justice. The Episcopal See was transferr'd thither from *Antibes*, by Pope *Innocent IV.* in 1250. by reason of the bad Air, and the Incursions of *Pirates*; it is a pretty Town, fortify'd with a good *Cittadel*, &c.

The most considerable places are, *Antibe*, *Antipolis* a good Sea-port Town, and a Colony of the *Marseillois*, *Canes* upon *Cape de la Croix*, *Mogins*, *Cesari*, *Cipieres*, *Le Bar*, *Chateau-neuf*.



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*Of the Diocese of VENCE.*

**T**His Maritim Country, the ancient habitation of the *Nerufii*, has the Diocese of *Grace* to the West, that of *Glandeve* to the North, and the County of *Nice* to the East. The Dioceses of *Grace* and *VENCE* are very small, and afford but little Revenue.

The City of *VENCE*, *Vintium*, lies five Leagues North East from *Grace*, and two North of the Sea. It has a Bayliwick and a Bishoprick Suffragan of *Ambrun*. It is very ancient; the temporal Dominion is divided between the Bishop and the Baron of *VENCE*. The Cathedral is dedicated to our Blessed Lady.

The famous Poet *Godeau*, who has made a Paraphrastical Translation in *French* Rythms of the Psalms, and the Canticle of *Solomon*, written a Church History, &c. was Bishop of *Grace* and *VENCE*; for these two Dioceses are oft joyn'd, because of their nearness and smallness.

There are but four places of note in the Diocese of *VENCE*, viz. *Cagne* and *S. Laurens* near the



the Sea; *S. Paul* on the South side of *VENCE*, and *Le Broc* near the *Var*.

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## Of the Diocese of GLANDEVE.

**B**Efore the *Romans* and *French*, this Country was inhabited by a *Ligurian* Nation call'd *Velauni*. It lies now about the *Var* and *Vaine*, having the Bishopricks of *Grace* and *Vence* to the South, the County of *Beuil* to the East, part of *Embrunois* to the North, and the Dioceses of *Digne* and *Senex* to the West.

The City of *GLANDEVE* or *Glannateva*, on the South side of the *Var* with a Bishoprick Suffragan of *Ambrun*, is now almost ruin'd; for the Bishop makes his residence at a Burrough called *Enrevaux*, which has been built on the other side of the River, with the Ruins of the City, &c.

The other places of note are, *Guilleumes* the Seat of the *Viguier* for this Diocese. It lies at the foot of a Mountain on the North side of the *Var*, *Colmars* upon the *Verdon*, *Annot* upon the *Vaine*, these three are accounted Towns; the others are but Burroughs or good Villages, viz. *Torameles*, *Le Poget*, *La Pene*, &c.



## Of the Diocese of SISTERON.

**T**His Diocese seems to have had no particular Inhabitants, but to have made part of the Country of the *Cavares*; however it be, it borders on the Bishoprick of *Digne* to the East, on *Gapensis* and the *Baronnies* to the North, on the County *Venaissin* to the West, and on the Dioceses of *Apt* and *Riez* to the South.

The City of *Sisteron Secustero*, or perhaps *Acusio Colonia*, lies extended in length upon the confluence of the *Buech* and *Durance*, with a Bishoprick Suffragan of *Aix*, in the Upper Province, it has a Bayliwick, a small Cittadel, and a Castle.

The most considerable places are, *Forcalquier Forum Calcarium*, or *Fons Calcarium*. This Town was the Portion of the youngest Sons of the Counts of *Provence*. It has a good Cittadel, a *Viguier* and several Privileges. The French King is call'd in the publick Acts issued from the Parliament of *Aix*, Count of *Provence* and *Forcalquier*. *Manosque* is another pretty Town, lying on the *Durance* 11 Leagues South of *Sisteron*, and belonging to the Knights of *Maltha*. The other are but Burroughs or Villages, as *Rosset*, *Casteler*, *Puy-michel*, *Orezon*, *La Breilhane*, *Luiz*, *les Meex*, *Peyruis*; *Montfort* was formerly a Barony belonging to the Counts of *Provence*, and had then a very strong Castle;



Castle ; but it has been demolished, and the place is now an inconsiderable Village. However its Territory is still very large, and it has a Forest of 6 Leagues in circuit depending on it, and call'd *La Combe de S. Donat*. In the Viguary of *Forcalquier* are *S. Michel*, *Manne*, *Simiane*, &c.

### Of the Diocese of APT.

**I**T was anciently inhabited by the *Vulgientes*, and is now included betwixt the Viguary of *Forcalquier*, the County *Venaissin*, and the Archbishoprick of *Aix*.

The City of *APT*, *Apta Julia Vulgentium*, is a little Town on the River of *Calevon*, with a Bishoprick Suffragan of *Aix*, and a Bayliwick ; It is very ancient, for it was one of the biggest and most famous Towns of the *Celtes*, and the chief of the *Vulgientians* under the Romans : *Julius Caesar*, or rather some of his Successors liked it so well, that he encreas'd it, made it a Roman Colony, and gave it the name of the Conqueror of the *Gauls*. The Bishop of *APT* is the first Suffragan of *Aix*, and its first Prelate is *S. Auspicius* a Martyr. The Bishops of this City call themselves Princes of *APT*, and had heretofore the privilege of coining Money. There is to be seen a vast Treasure of Relicks, especially of *S. Auspicius*, and *S. Mark* the Abbot in the Cathedral of *S. Anne* : And of Count *Elearar*,



*Eleazar*, of *S. Delphine* his Wife both Virgins, and of *S. Margaret* their Maid-servant, in the Church of the *Franciscans*.

*Saut* is an ancient County near the source of the River *Sorgues* belonging to the Dukes of *Lefdiguieres*.

The other places are, *Lambez*, *S. Savornin*, *Gordes*, *Reilhane*, *Beaumont*, *Mirabeau*, *Tour d'Ay-gues* a strong hold with one of the finest Houses in the Province; *Lourmarin*, *Merindol*, *Menerbe*, *Aupede* and *Cabrieres*, were good Burroughs, whilst inhabited by the *Vaudois*, but since their barbarous Murther, they are but inconsiderable places.

I shall give here a more faithful account of it than that partial Scribler *Morery*, who says enough, however to make appear the unheard Cruelties of the Roman Church.

It must be observed before all, that time out of mind the Lords of *France* were not properly Subjects, but only Vassals to the King, and Sovereigns under him; and that their Fees, Castles & Mannors could not be ransack'd or pull'd down, nor their Subjects abused or kill'd, unless it were for Crime of High Treason. Now the places of *Merindol*, *Cabrieres*, *La Coste*, &c. whether the *Vaudois* resorted, belong'd to a Lord, who protected them, and all the Crimes they were found guilty of was to profess the same Religion, that was persecuted in other Parts of *France*, and to give retreat to such as escaped the bloody Hands of their Murderers. The French King *Francis* the I. prevailed upon by the Monks, gave out a severe Edict against all the Protestants, in 1535, and the Parliament of *Aix* condemned



to be burned 19 Inhabitants of Merindol, and the neighbouring places, most of whom were Ministers; but the first President *Chassanée*, a learned Lawyer superseded the Execution of it. He was succeeded by a most cruel Man, *John Meynier*, Baron of *Oppede*, or *Auppede* who making use of the absence of the King's Lieutenant, the Count of *Grignan*, put himself at the head of the Troops, that were in that Province, accompanied by a Capt. called the Baron of *La Garde*, the second President, two Counsellors, and *William Guerin*, Advocate General of that Parliament. Thus they went on to *Merindol*, and were reinforced in their way by the Troops of the Pope's Legate from *Avignon*. The poor *Vandois* retired into Woods and Mountains; so that the Persecutor's Army found nothing in their Villages and Burroughs; but old and sick Men, Women and Children, however they had the Barbarity of Murdering every one of them, and burning and razing all their Habitations, nay even of hanging 30 of them, who had surrendered themselves upon Terms. *Maimburg* confesses, that there were 3000 murdered, 600 sent to the Gallies, 24 Villages, and 900 Houses burnt; but others make it amount to a far greater number. This hapned in 1546, when *Francis* the first had Notice of it; he was sensible of the Injustice they had done; saying, that they had made use of his Name, to destroy the most honest Men in his Kingdom, and therefore ordered at his Death, which happened some Months after, to his Son and Successor, *Henry* the Second, that he should not leave those Barbarities unpunished. Accordingly this Prince immediately after his coming

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coming to the Crown, named Commissaries to judge of this Affair; but the Mony, and power of the Clergy, stopped their Mouths; so that the King was forced to remove the Suit before the Parliament of *Paris* by his Patents of 1551. Then the Persecutors not being able to avoid Justice any longer, threw the hatred of all this horrid and unlawful Executions, upon some Soldiers who were dead, or whom they had caused to make their escape, and upon the Advocate General *Guerin*, who was beheaded in the place of *Greve*. As to the Baron of *Oppede*, tho his Credit sav'd him from the hands of Humane Justice; yet it could not deliver him from the hands of God, who called him before his Tribunal in 1558, by the most painful Death that ever was, as you may see in *Thuanus*, *Dupleix*, and other Roman Catholick Historians.

### *Of the County Venaissin.*

THE County *Venaissin*, that is now a dependency of the Papal See, borders on *Provence* to the East; on *Dauphiné* to the North; on the *Durance* to the South; and on *Languedoc* to the West. It is about 13 or 14 Leagues from South to North, and from West to East; it is the first of the Pope's Legateships, a fruitful and pleasant Country; there are an Archbishoprick, 3 Bishopricks, 4 Baronies, and 78 Towns, Burroughs or Villages.

In the *Romans* time, it was inhabited by the *Cavares* and *Memini*, since it pass'd under the *French*, and from them to the *Marquesses* and the



the Counts of Provence. In 1228 the Estates of Raimond Count of Toulouse, having been seiz'd from him, because of his protecting the *Albigois*, it was agreed amongst the Usurpers, that the Lands which Raimond had possess on the East of the *Rhone* should be settled in trust, only for a time, to Gregory IX. as appears by the Letters of this Pope to the French K. Lewis IX. and Queen *Blanche* his Mother, in 1230, and 1233. Its modern name *Venaissin* comes from *Venatione*, because of the vast quantity of Game that is in this Country.

*Avignon* and its Territory made up a separate Dominion; which still belong'd to the Counts of *Provence*; but in 1348 *Jane* Queen of *Naples* and *Sicily*, Countess of *Provence*, sold this City with its Suburbs and Territory, for the Summ of 80000 Golden Florens, that is 48000 French Livres, to Pope *Clement VI.* and lest it should be said that this summ came not near the value of so considerable a City, it was inserted in the Agreement, that the Queen made a free gift of the over-plus to the Pope. Hereupon the French Historians observe, 1. That this Princess being born in 1328. was not yet out of Age, no more than her second Husband *Lewis of Tarante.* 2dly. That the sale was made without the consent of the Guardians given her by *K. Robert* her Grandfather, when he instituted her his Universal Heir against his express will. 3. That some years after the same Pope to hinder Queen *Jane* of selling others of her Countries, gave out a Bull declaring void all the alienations made, or to be made by the said Queen, both in the Kingdom of *Naples*, and in the County



County of *Provence*, against the will of the said K. *Robert* her Grandfather. 4thly. That in 1365 Queen *Jane* declar'd void the sale of *Avignon*, and all the others she had made to that very time.

These are the Chief reasons on which the French Kings ground their pretensions over *Avignon* and County *Venaissin*, and for which they never fail of seizing upon this City and County, as soon as they are at variance with the Court of *Rome*, as did *Lewis XIV.* in 1663. and 1688. I leave the Reader to judge of them, as he may do very impartially, since they are both our Enemies; only with this difference, that the one, viz. the Pope is irreconcilable to us as long as we are Protestants, whereas within some years we may be at peace with the other.

The City of *AVIGNON*, *Avenio*, *Cavarum*, is upon the *Rhone*, 8 Leagues North of *Arles*, almost as many South East of *Uzès*, and 10 North East of *Nîmes*, with an University and an Archbishoprick, only since the year 1475. under *Sixtus V.* It was before that time a Bishoprick Suffragan of *Arles*. Pope *Clement IV.* removed the Pontifical See to *Avignon* in 1305. *Clement VI.* bought that City 37 years after, his Successors lived there quietly till the year 1380. as also during the Schism, that is to the Council of *Pise*, in 1409. It has a Court of Inquisition; a Mint where Money is coyned with the Pope's Arms; its Walls are fine, its Churches magnificent, its Avenues pleasant. The justice is administred by the Consuls and their Assessor, who is the Judge of the City; the *Viguier*, who is like the Provost of Merchants in *Paris*,



*Paris*, or the Lord Mayor in *London*, judges without farther appeal, all Causes and Suits not exceeding four gold Duckets ; but in other Causes one may appeal to the Vice-Legate, who commits the matter to the Rote, which consists of five Auditors, and from thence one may still appeal to *Rome*. All the Canons of the Cathedral Church of our Blessed Lady, are clothed in Red, and the Chaplains in Purple ; seven Popes have seated there during 70 years, from 1307. till 1377. viz. Clement V. John XXII. Benedict XII. Clement VI. Innocent VI. Urban V. and Gregory XI. who by the persuasion of St. Catherine of Sienne remov'd to *Rome* again ; together with three Antipopes, Clement VII. Boniface IX. and Benedict XIII. from 1378 till 1409. This is called by the *Italians*, *The Babylonian Captivity of the Church*. And well may they compare their Church to *Babylon* ; for 'tis as like to the Mystical *Babylon* of the Revelation, as two drops of Water are to each other. Amongst other resemblances the following will not be unpleasant, viz. that the number of Seven, the number of the Heads of the Beast, seems to be affected in the publick buildings of *Avignon*, which is the Master-piece of the Popes, for there are 7 Parishes, 7 Monasteries, 7 Hospitals, 7 Colleges, 7 Palaces, 7 Markets, and 7 Gates, which make up 7 times 7.

The City of *Carpentras*, *Carpentoraſte Muni-*  
*orum*, lies upon the *Ruſſe* 5 or 6 Leagues from *Antignon*, with a Judge in Ordinary, an Office of the Pope's Exchequer, and a Bishoprick Suffragan of *Avignon*. It is seated on the foot of *Mount Ventoux*, which is four Leagues high, and



on the ruins of *Venasque* or *Vindausca*, in a fruitful Soil, with good Walls about it. This is properly the Chief City of the County *Venaissin*.

*Cavaillon*, *Cabellio Colonia*, lies upon the *Durance*, in an Island form'd by that River, the *Calevon* and the *Durancole*, 9 Miles South West of *Avignon*. It was formerly seated on a Hill, where are still some remains of old Buildings, but now it lies in a very fruitful Plain, though for the rest it is small and ill built; the Cathedral is dedicated under the name of *S. Veran*, one of its Bishops in the 6th. Century. It belong'd to the *Cavares*.

*Vaison*, *Vasio*, is seated upon a Hill washed by the *Louvre*. It's mention'd by *Pliny*, *Protony*, and other ancient Geographers, as one of the Cities of the *Vocontii*, and seems to have been pretty considerable. But it has been so oft ransack'd and plunder'd by the *Goths*, *Vandales*, and *Sarracens*, that there is but a heap of ruins, where it formerly laid, viz. in the plain, about the Church of our Lady.

The other places of note are, *Mornas*, *Chateau-neuf-du-Pape*, *Barbentanes*, and *Boulbon* upon or near the *Rhone*; *Graveson*, *Chateau-neuf*, *Noves*, *Caumont*, and *Valorges*, about the *Durance*, *Chateau-neuf*, *L'Isle*, *Perne*, *Pont de Sorgues*, near the River *Sorgues*; *Bedarides*, *Sarrian*, *Caron*, *Flassan*, *Mazan*, *Venasque*, *S. Didier*, about *Carpentras*; *Miolans*, *Queyrane*, and *Cameret* about *Vaison*.



## Of the Principality of Orange.

**I** Put here this Principality, because it cannot be describ'd any where else, since it's included by the County Venaissin on all sides, save on the West by the Rhone. It is very small, though its Territory be extraordinary fertil in Wine, Corn, Fruits, &c. for its greatest length East and West, is but 5 Leagues, and not quite 4 North and South. That it belongs by right to His Majesty *William III.* as part of his Patrimonial Estate is undeniable; though to put an affront, if it were possible, upon that great Prince, the Parliament of *Paris* have adjudg'd it to *Charles Paris* of *Orleans* last Duke of *Longueville*, kill'd in the Dutch War of 1672; and tho *Lewis XIV.* pretending to be his Heir, lords now over it, as though it were his own. But to determine whether the *French Kings*, as Counts and Marquesses of *Provence*, are Lords Paramount of this Principality, would require too long a discussion. I shall only observe, 1st. That in 793 *William au Cornet* or *au Court-nez*, High Constable of *France*, having conquered *Orange* from a *Sarracen King* called *Theobard*, took the Title of Count by the Grace of God; which was then proper to Sovereigns. 2dly. That since the Right Prince of  
Orange



*Orange* is now King of *England*, he may in compensation, justly lay his claim to those vast and rich Dutchies and Counties of *Normandy*, *Guienne*, *Poitou*, *Maine*, *Touraine*, *Anjou*, that were the undisputable inheritance of his Predecessors; besides his right to the whole Kingdom of *France*.

The City of *ORANGE*, *Aurasia Cavarum*, or *Secundanorum Colonia*, lies a League West of the *Rhone*, and 6 North of *Avignon*, with the Title of Principality, and a Bishoprick Suffragan of *Arles*: This was formerly a *Roman* Colony of the second Legion; there are still to be seen the remains of a *Cinque*, and a *Triumphal Arch* almost whole. There was a kind of little Parliament, whose Members were one half *Roman* Catholicks, and the other Protestants, but it was cashier'd by the *French* King in 1687, and changed into a *Viguiers* Jurisdiction, under the Parliament of *Aix*. It has still a Mint, and an University. Its strong Cittadel, and other Fortifications were razed in 1660. against the Agreement made some Months before with Count *Dhona* Governour of the Town. The Protestant Religion was forbidden there; though there are 12 or 15 Jewish Families offered in the City, and above as many in the dependencies of it.

The other places of note are, *Caderousse*, *Courtezon*, *Fonquieres*, *Vaqueyras*, and *Gigondas*; but formerly this Principality extended much farther within *Tricastinois*, *Dion*, *Valentinois*, *Gapencois*, *Sisteronnois*, the County of *Nice*, the County *Venaissin*, and even beyond the *Rhone* into



into the Dioceses of Montpellier, Nismes and Lodeve in Languedoc.

### Of the Islands of Provence.

THE Isles of *Martegues*, *Maritima Avaticorum*, which are called by some, *Venice of France*, are made of a Triple Town with the Title of Principality, belonging to the Duke of Vendome. For they are divided into 3 Parts *Ferriere*, *l'Isle* and *Jonquieres*, and seated on the Pond of *Berre*, from whence they have digg'd great Ditches for a Communication with the Sea, distant about an English Mile; so that the greatest Boats come up to the Town from the Sea, and go through the Pond for the conveniency of Trade; and they may easily go from one Town to the other upon Bridges. There are all sorts of good Fish caught in certain high Sea-rushes called, *Bourdigaux*; the Inhabitants are great Lovers of Dancing and Mirth, whence comes the common Proverb to dance the *Martingale*. This Town has had several Masters; for it belong'd once to the Viscounts of *Marseille*, then to the Counts of *Provence*. *Francis of Lorrain* Dutches of *Mercoeur*, *Estampes*, *Ponthievre*, Princess of *Martegues* brought all her Estate into the House of *Vendome*, by her Marriage with *Cesar Duke of Vendome*, a Legitimated Son to  
Henry



*Henry IV.* These Islands lye 8 Leagues West of *Marseille*, 10 South East of *Arles*, and 12 South West of *Aix*.

The Islands *Stacades*, call'd also the Golden Islands, or *Hyer*, *Olbia* and *Area*, because they lie over against the Town of that name, are 3 in number, call'd by the *Latins*, *Sturium*, *Phenice*, *Phila*, and in *French*, Island of *Levant*, or of *Tilan*, *Porte-Cross*, which has a *Garrison*, and *Porquerolles*, all three in the *Diocese* of *Toulon*. In *Cassian's* time, these Islands were inhabited by Monks; some of whom under *Pope Innocent the III.* were *Cistermians*. They are so fertile, that after the loss of *Rhodes* the *Knights of S. John* designed to settle there with the *French King's* leave.

The Islands of *Lerins*, *Lero*, *Planasia*, or *Lerinus*, are but two in number, over against the Town of *Cannes* towards *Antibes*, which are call'd Islands of *S. Margaret* or *Lero*, and of *S. Honorat*, *Planasia*, or *Lerinus*. The first draws its name from a Chappel dedicated to that Saint, it is three quarters of a League long, and one quarter broad; there are five Ports, and a Cittadel newly fortified to defend it. The other draws it from *S. Honorat*, who founded there a Monastery in 375. driving away as 'tis said, the Serpents that made it desert, and causing a Fountain of fresh-water to spring there, which is still in being. He was afterwards Bishop of *Arles*. This Solitude has been for many Ages together the Nursery of the Prelates of *Provence*, and of the neighbouring Churches. For thence are issued 12 Archbishops, as many Bishops, 10 Abbots, 4 Monks



numbered among the Holy Confessors and 105. Martyrs. The Air is very temperate, the Soil fertile. The Spaniards surpriz'd these Islands in the beginning of this Age, laid waste this holy place, pull'd down those fine Forests of Pine-trees, which formed many covered Walks, adorned by a vast number of Oratories; but in 1637. they were turned out of them. There are in the Island of S. Honorat 3 Walls, and 6 Chappels: they Fish there a great deal of Coral.

As for *Chateau-d'if*, it is a little Island, two Leagues South of *Marseille*, with a good strong hold, where the biggest Ships stop, because they cannot get in the Port of that City for want of Water. There are some Islands on the Mouth of the *Rhone*, but cover'd only with Grass and Mountains.

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## C H A P. XVII.

## Of Dauphiné.

**T**his Province the nearest to *Italy*, confines on the North to that of *Bresse*, and the Dukedom of *Savoy* is separated from *Piedmont* by the *Alps*, on the East; from the County of *Nice*, *Provence*, the County *Venaissin*, and the Principality of *Orange*, by the same Mountains, tho' interrupted in some places, towards the South; and from *Languedoc* on the West by the *Rhone*. It reaches above fifty common Leagues of *France*, or 38 of *DAUPHINE*, East and West, from *Pignerol* to the *Rhone*, and above forty North and South from *Fort de Barraux* on the Borders of *Savoy* to *Cisternon* in *Provence*. The Country is Mountainous all over, except in the North-West of Low *Dauphine*; however it produces excellent Wine, and abundance of Corn of all sorts; as Wheat, Rye, Early, Oats, Spelt, Lentil, Beans, Pease, and other kind of Pulse. There are also many Woods, and some of them are pretty large, and full of Bucks, Deers, Shamoyes, and other Beasts of Game; but the greatest part of their



Woods are Warrens , that abound with Hares, Conies, Pheasants, red and gray Pratrriages, &c. Neither does it want Pasture-Ground, especially about the middle, and the foot of some Mountains, whether the Provencals, and the Inhabitants of Low *Dauphine* send their Cattel to feed in Summer time. In a word, this Country which, by the bare looking on the Map, seems fitter for a Nest of Birds and wild Deers, than for the Habitation of Men, supplies its Inhabitants with all the Conveniencies of Life: For as the Mountains and Vallies of High *Dauphine*, furnish them with Corn, Hay, Apples, Pears, Nuts, Chesnuts, Cherries, and all sorts of Northern Fruits; so the lower Part, gives them abundance of the best Wines, and even some Manna, Olives, Oranges and Cittrons. They have likewise Salt-Springs and Iron-Mines; but what is most valuable of all, its Mountains are the Seminaries of Gardens, bringing forth abundance of wild Thyme, Daffodils, Tulips, Ambrets, Lilies, Roses, Pinks, &c. besides that, they produce such Simples as are hardly to be met with any where else; as the *Scorzonera* or Vipers-Grass; the Angelick, the Satyrion, &c. There are also the seven Wonders of *D A U P H I N E*, of which I shall speak in their proper places.

Its chief Rivers are the *Pin* that rises in the South of *Viennois*, and waters a good part of that Country, passing thorough the Marquisate of *Virieu*; the Barony of *La Tour da Pin*, the Town of *Bourgoin*, and a Lake of that Name, and falling into the *Rhone*, between *Anton* and *St. Marie*, seven Leagues East of *Lyons*. The  
Ozon,



*Ozon*, the *Gere*, the *Vareze*, the *Dolon* increased with the *Ambre*, and the *Sane*, the *Galaure*, are other Rivers of the *Viennois* that discharge themselves into the *Rhone*. The *Ijere* that comes from Mount *Ijerm*, in the Vally of *Ausie*, washes a good part of *Savoy*, where it receives the *Plen*, and the *Arly* at *Conflans*; the *Arc* at *Miolans*, goes by *Montmelian*, and through *Grenoble*, where it mixes with the *Drac*, that rises in the *Ambrunois*, and is increased with the *Ramanche* and *Grosse*, near *Port de Champ*, two Leagues South of *Grenoble*; then it receives the *Vence* at *Saslerage*, the *Boanne*, and *Eschevits* at *La Baume* washes *Romans*, and falls into the *Rhone*, five Miles North of *Valence*. The small River of *Veour* runs likewise into the *Rhone*, increas'd with two other Rivulets, over against *Sayons*, a League South of *Valence*.

The *Drome* rises in the Vally of *Valdrome* in the *Gapençois*, goes thorough the Lake of *Beaumont*, receives the *Bese* at *St Feriol*, and the *Merocce* at *Die*: Then increased with the *Sure*, the *Rouanne*, and the *Gervane*, washes *Crest*, and mixes with the *Rhone*, between *Livron* and *L'Aurivol*, eleven Miles South of *Valence*. The *Achasse* rises at *Montmorin*, three or four Miles South of the Source of the *Drome*, runs thorough the Vally of *Bourdeaux*, and by *Montelimar*, near which it receives the *Jabron*, and the *Vebre*, takes the Name of *Rouvion*, and discharges it self into the *Rhone*. The *Durance* proceeds from two Fountains; that spring from *Col de La-Rone*, and join at *Briançon*, receives the River of *Guillestre*, at a Burrough of that Name, goes by *Ambrun*, receives the *Bene* at *Vaulserre*, and the *Bu-*



*ech*, which is a pretty large River, bearing Float-Boats of Timber during ten or twelve Leagues, at *Cisteron*, and pursuing its course thorough *Provence*, goes by *Manosque*, *Cavaillon*, and falls into the *Rhone*, near *Avignon*.

This Province is made up of some part of four *Roman Provinces*; for *Vienne*, *Valance*, *Die* and *Grenoble*, were of the first *Viennoise*, *Ambrun* was the Capital of the *Maritim Alps*, *Gap* belong'd to the second *Narbennoise*; and *S. Paul Trois-Chasteaux*, to the Province of *Arles*. The *Burgundians* conquered these Provinces from the *Romans*, and enjoy'd them about 90 or 130, from 404, or 408, till 532, or 534, that they were subdued by the *French*, who were Masters of their Dominions, till 879, that one *Boson*, caused himself to be crowned King of *Arles*. This *Boson* possess'd only that part of the *Burgundian Kingdom*, which is included between the *Saone*, the *Alps* and the *Sea*; but one *Rodolphe* having invaded the other Part in 888, and his Son, *Rodolphe* the Second, having gotten by cession that part which had been usurped by *Boson*, it passed to his Successors, and from them to the Emperours of *Germany*, till that under the Reign of *Henry* the IV. *Gui*, or *Gaique* the VI. surnam'd *the Old*, or *the Fat*, taking hold of the Quarrel between this Emperour and the *Popes*, made himself Sovereign of the County of *Grenoble*. His Successor *Gui* the VII. acquired the Lordship or Country of *Vienne*, from *Berthold* of *Zeringhen*, and was the first that call'd himself *D A U P H I N* of *Viennois*. *Adrian de Valois* pretends, that this Title was the Surname of that Prince, and quotes *Beda*; and  
William



*William of Malmſbury*, who remembers one *Dauphin* Biſhop of *Lyons*, that was kill'd above 1000 Years ago; but *Monſieur Chorier*, in his learned *History of DAUPHINE*, tells us out of an Author, that has written the Life of this Prince's Wife; that her Husband having taken in a Turnaments the *Dolphin* for his Arms and Device; and having been admir'd there, for his Proweſs and Valour; he thence got the Name of *Count of the Dolphin*, or *Count Dolphin*. The laſt Prince of that Family, *Humbert the Second*, having had his eldeſt Son kill'd in the Battel of *Creçy*, againſt the *Engliſh*, and having unhappily let fall the Second out of a Window as he plaid with him, and being often provok'd and diſturb'd by *Amedeus of Savoy* his mortal Enemy, to paſs the reſt of his Life more quietly, he yielded his Eſtates to the *French King Philip of Valois*, upon theſe Conditions; That the eldeſt Son of *France*, ſhould bear the Name of *Dauphin*, and the Arms of that Province quartered with thoſe of *France*, † that the Clergy, Nobility and Commons, ſhould ſtill enjoy their Privileges; and that the whole Province ſhould never be annexed to to the Kingdom of *France*, unleſs the Empire were united to it.

The ancient *Dauphins* entitl'd themſelves Princes of *Briancon*, Dukes of *Champſor*, Marqueſſes of *Ceſane*, Counts *Palatines* of *Vienne*, *Albon*, *Grenoble*, *Ambrun* and *Gap*; Barons of *La Tour du-Pin*, *Menillon* and *Mountauban*; to which Titles were added thoſe of Counts of *Valantinois* and *Diois*, after the Year 1419, that *Lewis of Poiſſiers* left his Eſtates to *Charles the V. Dauphin*, and 7th of that Name, King of *France*. † *Du Cheſne*. B b 4 Tho



Tho' this Province and Savoy be the ancient *Allobroges*, and this name in our vulgar Tongue proverbially, signify a dull and heavy sort of a Man: yet the *Dauphinois* are not altogether so; for Countrymen are skilful and industrious, and know as well as any Tenants in the World, how to cheat their Lords; those of the Mountains are extraordinary strong, and go in Winter-time to *Provence*, and the lower Parts of *Dauphiné*, where they get their Livelihood by Dressing Hemp, and doing other hard works, and to put to use the little Mony they earn; they buy at their return some Pedling-ware for their Countrymen. The Gentry are couragious, and well bred, but poor for the most part, because too numerous; those that have travell'd, are of a sweet conversation, but the others are too tedious in their civilities. The Country-Language is a mixture of corrupted *Latin*, *Italian* and *French*, broader towards *Provence*, and more languishing towards *Savoy*, but the Gentry speaks good *French* every where, especially at *Grenoble*; however you may distinguish them from the *Parisians*, not so much by their Accent as by some particular Idiotisms. For instance, they say, *beaucoup du vin, bien de pain, la chose que j'ai fait, par chemin*, instead of *beaucoup de vin, bien du pain, la chose que j'ay faite, par le chemin*. During the civil Wars the Protestants have been Masters of the best part of this Province, but ever since the Popish Religion hath been prevalent.

The whole Province is divided into several small Countries which, because Authors much vary there-upon, I shall follow the new Division of Robbe  
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and *Samson*, as I have hitherto done, and begin with *Upper DAUPHINE*.

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## Of High-Dauphiné.

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## Of Gresivaudan.

**BY** the Name of *GRESIVAUDAN*, is understood the Bayliwick resorting to *Grenoble*, which comprehends the Mountains of *GRESIVAUDAN*, properly so called; the Vally of *Trieves Royanez*, and a small Tract of Land beyond the *Isere*, bordering on *Savoy* and  *Viennois*, making in all an extent of 24 Leagues North and South, and 18 or 20, East and West. Some take it for the Habitation of the antient *Tricollares*; and that afterwards it was call'd *GRESIVAUDAN*, as if one should say *Vallis-Græcorum*, The Vally of the *Greeks*; which Etymology seems more reasonable, than to derive it from *Gratianopolitana Vallis*.

**GRENOBLE**, Capital of this Country, and of the whole Province, is seated on the River *Isere*, which separates it into 2 Parts, the Town, and the



long Suburbs of *St. Laurence*, 12 or 13 Leagues South-West of *Montmelian*. The Town is situated in a fertile Plain, and the Suburb at the foot of a Mountain, that produces excellent Wine; both taken together are of the bigness of *London*, from *Temple-Bar* to the Bridge. Its Parliament is the third of *France*, for 'twas erected by *Lewis* the XI. in 1453. There are also a Chamber of Accompts, Generality, Election, Presidial, Bayliwick, and a Spiritual Court for the Bishop, who takes the Title of Prince of *Grenoble*, and is suffragan to the Archbishop of *Vienne*, tho' he precedes his Metropolitan at the Assembly of the States. In what time this Town was converted to Christianity is uncertain; for the most ancient Bishop we know of, is one *Domnin*, who assisted at the Council of *Aquileia* in 381. These Prelates have the Privilege of presiding to the States of that Province, which was granted to them, to reward the Fidelity of one, who stuck firm with the Nobility to the *Frensh* King's Interest, while the rest of the Clergy and the People, resolved to submit to the Pope. There was of late a Chamber of the *Edict*, made up of a President, and six Counsellors Roman Catholics, and as many Protestants; but it was abolished in 1679. To this Chamber resorted the Reformed of *Dauphiné* and *Provence*, and those of *Burgundy* had the choice of this or that of *Paris*; besides that of the four Consuls or Sheriffs, the Second was to be a Protestant. The most considerable Buildings are the Cathedral-Church of our *Lady*, and that of *S. Andrew*, both of which have Canons, and the last is considerable by a Pyramidical Tower.



Tower. The other Buildings are the Pallace of the Parliament, that of the Governour, with its costly Gardens; the House formerly belonging to the Lord Constable of *Lesdiguieres*, &c. In 1562. the Protestants master'd that Town, with the Castles of *La Bussiere* and *Mirebel*. *Grenoble* was already considerable in *Cicero's* Time, and bore the Name of *Cularo*. The Emperor's *Diocletian* and *Maximinian* repair'd it, and gave a name to two of its Gates, as appears by an ancient Inscription; but it is not so certain whether it was rebuilt by the Emperour *Gratian*, tho it be now call'd *Gratianopolis*. *Baudrand* says, that it is also called *Granopolis*, whence comes the French word *Grenoble*; but *De Valois* observes, that *Granopolis* is but an abbreviation in writing of *Gratianopolis*; which maim'd word some ignorant Transcriber has taken for the true name of that Town. The Inhabitants of *Grenoble* are more polite than the rest of their Countrymen, and the Residence of the Governour, and of the Parliament makes it a pretty rich Town. It has produced several learned Men, especially Lawyers; as *Du Perier*, *Chorier*, *Allard*; the two last of whom are yet alive, for ought I know, the one being famous for his History of that Province, and the other for that of its Nobility. Formerly some Branches of the River *Drac*, discharged into the *Isere* to e'n near *Grenoble*; so that Rains and melted Snow swelling up this Torrent, often drown'd the neighbouring Campaign, and even a good part of the Town; but now they have removed them farther to the West.

Almost



Almost two Leagues West of *Grenoble*, upon the meeting of the Rivers, *Vence* and *Isere*, is the Barony of *Sassenage*, famous not only for its Lords, who are the most ancient and considerable in that Province, but especially for two rare things that are reckon'd among the Wonders of *DAPHINE*, namely, some Stones which are said to be very serviceable to cure sore Eyes; and two Hollownesses digg'd in the Rock, and called by the Inhabitants *Cuves* or *Tubs*, which are pretended to be empty the whole year round, except on the Day of *Epiphany*, tho' no body knows whence it comes, nor whether it retires after that Day. They add further, that there is more or less Water in several years, according as the Harvest is to be more or less abundant, which is signified in respect to Corn by one of these Tubs, and in regard of Vine by the other. Divers Authors mention these Tubs, and I have often heard of them, but I never had occasion to examin this pretended wonder, nor did I ever speak with any Man of Repute, who had been an Eye-witness of it, or who gave any credit to this relation.

Half-way between *Grenoble* and *Sassenage*, is *La Tour Sans Venin*, another wonder of *Dauphine*, where 'tis said, that no Venemous Creature can live no more than in *Ireland*.

Seven Miles North of Grenoble, is La Grand, Chartreuse, the chief Habitation of the Cartusian Monks, and the ordinary Residence of the General. It's a magnificent Building in a fine Desert, in the middle of steep and rugged Rocks. It was founded in the 11th Century, by one Bruno, who weary of the World, retired thither,



ther, and had leave given him, by *Hugh*, Bishop of *Grenoble*, to build there a Chappel, and since a Monastery, which in process of time increased to that height, that it became the Head of the Cartusian Order, and these Solitaries, the richest of all the Fryars, as they are still, unless the Jesuits do exceed them. All those who go to pay these Monks a Visit, are kindly received, and entertained by the Directors of the House; for the Monks themselves speak to no body, unless it be at certain Hours, and that in very few words, which is a fair pretence to conceal the gross Ignorance wherein they are kept. They will shew you all the Curiosities thereabouts, without enquiring what Religion you are of, at least it was so, some time before the last Persecution.

Remounting the *Isere*, nine Leagues North of *Grenoble*, 11 Miles from the *Grand Chartreuse*, and five South of *Montmelian*, lies *Fort de Baraux*, situated on a Mountain near that River. It is not quite so strong as *Montmelian* was of late; however 'tis the Key of *France* on that side. In 1528, *March* 13. the Duke of *Lesdigueres* took it by Storm from the Leaguers in two hours time.

On the South of the *Isere*, two Leagues East of *Grenoble*, lies the Village of *Giere*, which I mention here for a natural Curiosity, the like I never met with else where; namely, a *Cascade*, or *Water-Fall*, that precipitates it self down from a steep Rock, almost as high as the Steeple of *Bow-Church*, and as thick as two Men; and after it has run some steps into a small Rivulet, is brought thorough Lead Pipes into a Garden, where



where it spouts with an incredible Violence, as high as any Tree; so that if this Place were not neglected, but Art were joined to Nature, it would make the finest VWater-fall and Spout in the VWorld.

The Gardens, and Park of *Vizille*, three Leagues South-west of *Grenoble* are much better kept, because they belong'd to the Dukes of *Lesdiguières*, which during three Generations, and almost an Age, have enjoy'd the Government of *Dauphiné*. The Park is encompassed with Walls of almost three Leagues in circuit. There are small Hills and Vallies, and abundance of all Beasts of Game. There is likewise a *Mesnagerie*, where they keep Foreign Birds. But the most considerable piece is what they call, tho somewhat improperly the *Cascade*. for 'tis rather the Bed of a small Brook of a Mile or two in length, pav'd with Free large Stone, and divided into Squares of 5 or 6 Fathoms; so that the Water falls by degrees from the Duke's Pallace to the end of the Park.

The Vally of *Trieves* is considerable for the abundance of its Gentry, and the three Towns of *La mure*, *Mens* and *Corps*. The resemblance of the Names makes *Holstenius* take the second for the habitation of the ancient *Mimenii*, and the third for that of the *Tricorii*. This Vally is yet famous for a place call'd the *Burning-Fountain*, which was indeed so in *Cæsar's* time, and even about 50 Years ago; but whether that the Sulphureal Steams were then spent, or by some other accident unknown to me, the small Rivulet, that ran over the Burning-place, lies now some steps farther. However, 'tis still  
admirable



admirable enough to see a low place vomit Smoak and Flames, without any appearance of Hollowness or combustible Matter; and that the Minerals, that are the source of those Steams should have lasted Time out of Mind, without any sensible dimunition. And therefore this place is still accounted one of the seven Wonders of *Dauphine*. At night, especially in cold Weather, or when it rains but slowly, the Flames are very sensible; but in the heat of the Day, or after a violent Rain, there appears but a Smoak, which, being put on Fire by kindled Straw, draws out other Vapours; so that the Flame lasteth a considerable time.

The small Country of *Royanez*, the most West-erly of *GRESIVAUDAN*, along the *Isere*, has two Marquisates, *La Baume* and *Pont de Royan*, which last is a large Barough, where the Protestants had a Church, and a Minister that made himself known of late, several ways.

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*Of the County of DIOIS.*

**T**His Country anciently inhabited by the *Vocontii*, seems to have been much larger than it is now, since *Vasio* or *Vaison*, a City of *Provence*, near the County *Venaissin* was its Capital. Now 'tis extended about 18 Leagues North and South from *St. Julien* to *S. Ferriol*, and about 16 East and West from *La Croix Haute* to *Crest*, where it is broadest. Besides *Vasio*, the *Vocontii* had 21 Towns more, among which, *Lucus Augusti*, and *Dea Vocontiorum*, were the most considerable; the first is now but a Village, call'd *Luc*, near a Lake of that Name, almost six Leagues South-East of *Die*. All the ancient Historians agree, that *Hannibal* went thorough the Land of the *Vocontii*, towards *Pignerol*, in order to pass the *Alps*, and descend into *Italy*. But this Country is much more considerable, for having produced one of the best Historians *Rome* ever saw, and whose loss is most deplorable, viz. *Trogus Pompeius*.

This County is Mountainous all over, tho' fruitful in Wine and Corn, and abundant with Pasture-ground. The most remarkable is *Mont-Aiguille*,



*Aiguille*, or the unaccessible Mountain, five Leagues North-East of *Die*, near a Village called *Cheffiliane*. One can go up to the height of a quarter of a Mile, but then it rises so steep for almost a Mile, that no sort of Animal was ever able to go to the top of it, which appears by the Grass and Weeds that are overgrown there.

Near this Mountain is the Vally of *Vercors*, which keeps yet something of the Name of the *Vocontii*, or rather of a small Tract of Land belonging to them, and called *Vertacomicos*. *Die*, upon the *Drome*, lies 16 Leagues South of *Grenoble*, and 11 South-west of *Valence*, is the *Dea Vocontiorum*, and a Colony of the Romans, built or repair'd in honour of *Livia*, *Augustus's* Wife; and therefore sometimes called *Dea Augusta*. It has a Bayliwick, and a Bishoprick, which was united to that of *Valence* in 1275, but was again separated from it in 1687.

This Town was full of Protestants before the the last Persecution, because they had there a Colledge and University proper to them, for Philosophy and Divinity. The *Lombards* became Masters of *Die* in 1514; and after the last dismembring of the Kingdom of *Arles* or *Burgundy*, the Sovereignty of it was usurped by the Bishops, or some Lords under them. They bore the Title of Counts, and were issued from the House of *Forcalquier*, who possessed it during the 11 and 12th Century; at the end of which it passed to the House of *Poitiers*, who already enjoyed the County of *Valentinois*, but *Lewis* of *Poitiers* sold them both to the French King *Charles* the VI. in 1404; and so they were united to the rest of the Province.

The



The Protestants took this Town twice during the civil Wars in 1577 and 1585; and the last time raz'd the Cittadel. The most ancient Bishop of *Die* remembred in History is one *Martin*, for *St. Nicaise*, who was the sole Prelate of the *Gauls*, that assisted to the first Council of *Nice* was but the 5th in Order.

Three Miles North-west of *Die* is the Village of *Quint* on the meeting of the Rivers *Sure* and *Drome*. It gives name to a Mountain whence it rises, three Leagues North-west of the Village of *Saillans*, which *Ortelius* and *Holstein* suppose to be some remains of the ancient *Segalauni*; but *Adrian de Valois* proves that according to the genius of the French Tongue, *Saillans* cannot be derived from thence. The Village of *Bourdeaux* gives it name to a Vally on the South of the River *Achasse*.



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Of the BARONNIES.

**T**His Counary the most Southerly of *Dauphine* produces not only good Wine, but also some Olives, Figs, Oranges and Pomegranates. It seems to be so named from the several Lordships it comprehends in its little extent of 16 Leagues East and West, and six or seven North and South. It is likewise called the Bailiwick of *le Buys*, from its Capital, seated on the River *Ouveze*, on the Borders of *Provence*, six Leagues North East of *Vaison*. It is but a small Town, tho it be the Seat of a Bailly, and that the Protestants and Roman Catholicks thought it worth their trouble to fight for it; the Lord of *St. Auban* having taken it for the former in 1561. Here and at *Nions*, another pretty Town, five Leagues North West upon the River *Eygues* were a great number of Protestants. Near the last is a large Rock with a Hole, that emits a wind almost insensible hard by, but very violent at 20 or 30 Steps distance. I shall not insist upon the several Lordships of this Country, as *Condouret*, *Gouvernet*, *Menouillon*, *Montbrun*, which have given their Names to as many noble Families.



## Of Gapencois.

**T**His Bayliwick extended about 18 Leagues North and South, and 14 East and West, tho' it be for the most part Mountainous, does not want any of the conveniencies of Life. Its ancient Inhabitants were called *Tricorii*; as appears by the Description that *Livy* makes of *Hannibal's* Journey thorough *Dauphine*. In this Territory is the *trembling Meadow*, *le pré qui tremble* accounted one of the seven Wonders of *Dauphine*. Horses and Carts dare not go over it, for fear of sinking down.

The Capital City is called in *Latin* *Vapincum*; but tho' it has been a long time so considerable, that it was the 5th in Order among the Cities of *Narbonnoise Gaule*, yet it is not mentioned by ancient Geographers. Its modern name is *Gap* now somewhat famous by the late expedition of the Duke of *Savoy*. It formerly belong'd to the Counts of *Forcalquier*, till *William* the VI. gave it for her Portion to his Grand-Daughter *Beatrix* of *Claustrail* married to *Guy Andrew*, Dauphin of *Vienne*, in 1202, whence perhaps it is that the Bishop intitles himself Count of *Gap*. This Town is not very big nor very strong neither, being commanded by Mountains round about, and having no other River but a small  
Book,



Book, called *Bene*. During the civil Wars the Papists proved the strongest in this Town, and having driven out the Protestants 1561, declared afterwards for the League. The Duke of *Lefdeguieres*, the French King's Lieutenant, to keep these Rebels in awe, built a Fort upon a Hill, nam'd *Phymore*, a Mile West of the Town in 1588. Last year 1692. The Duke of *Savoy* having taken *Ambrun*, *Gap* surrendered to him, but he abandoned both soon after. The Inhabitants of *Gap*, hold *St. Demetrius* a Martyr for their first Bishop, but their first Prelate remembred in History is one *Constance*, who assisted at the Council of *Paunas* in 1509.

*Veynes*, 6 Leagues South-West of *Gap*, is the habitation of many Gentlemen, who divide amongst them the jurisdiction of the place. It's seated between fruitful Mountains and Meadows, but is not accounted a Town, because not wall'd in. However it would be as big as *Gap*, if the 7 or 8 Hamlets depending on it were joyn'd.

*Serres* upon the River *Buech*, 10 Leagues South West of *Gap*, is a small Town that has its name from the Hills whereupon it is built, and wherewith it is encompassed; that are called in the Country Language *Serres*. The place is capable of good Fortification; and therefore in the late civil Wars the Duke of *Lefdignieres* built there a strong Castle, whose Ruins are still to be seen. *Orpierre*, three or four Leagues South of *Serres*, is a considerable Burrough, with the Title of Barony belonging to the House of *Orange*. *La Roche* has the Title of County, *Tallart* of Viscounty, *Sauze* and *Esparron* of Marquisates. *Montmaur* and *Arzilliers* of Baronies, &c. *St. Bonnet*,



net, five Leagues North of Gap, is the Birth-place of *Francois de Bonne*, who from a simple Gentleman rais'd by his Valor to the Dignities of Duke, and Peer, Mareschal, and Lord High Constable of France. It's observ'd, that on the first of April 1543, that this great Captain came into the World; and the 28 of September 1624, that he departed from it, two memorable Incendies happen'd at St. Bonnet. *Lesdiguieres* has a fine, but not strong Castle. It was erected into a Dutchy and Peerdom, on behalf of the forementioned *Francois de Bonne*, in 1611. It lies 5 Leagues West of St. Bonnet, and nine North-west of Gap.

## Of Ambrunois.

THIS Country reaches not above ten or eleven Leagues on all sides, and a great part of it is barren Mountains and Desarts. It was the dwelling-place of the *Caturigæ*, whereof there are still some remains in the name of the Village of *Chorges*. *Catorigomagus*, 4 Leagues West of *Ambran*, and as many East of Gap.

A M B R U Nor Embrun, the Capital was the chief Habitation of the *Ambrualeti*, Allies to the Romans, according to *Du Chesne*; but the name of their City was *Ebredunum* or *Ebrodunum*, *Caturigum*, to distinguish it from *Ebredunum Helvetiorum*, which is *Iverdun* in Switzerland.

This



This City is now small, but seems formerly to have been considerable, since *Cæsar* makes mention of it; and that in the *Dauphin's* time it was the Title of their eldest Son. The Arch-Bishop has for Suffragans 6 Cities of *Provence*, *Digne*, *Grasse*, *Vence*, *Glandeve*, *Senez* and *Nice*, and takes the Title of Prince of *Ambrun*, and Count of *Seyne* and *Guillestre*. *Ambrun* was formerly an Imperial Town, but the Founders of the second Kingdom of *Burgundy* gave the Sovereignty of it to its Prelates, who in process of time yielded part of their Right to the French King's, as that of Coyning Mony, &c. However they have still part of the Towns Jurisdiction, and the other is Royal, under the Title of Bailiwick and Presidial. *Ambrun* is seated on the Platform of a rugged Rock, washed by the River *Durance*.

Tis said, that about the end of the first Century, one of *St. Nazare* planted there Christianity; but if so be, it had been almost extinguished after his decease or departure, since we do not read of any Bishop there before *St. Marcellin* about the Year 340. In 1583, *Lefdignieres* the French King's Lieutenant took this Town from the League, and the Inhabitants redeemed themselves from Plunder by a free Contribution, as they have done the same way from the Duke of *Savoy's* Arms, in 1692. The Cittadel, which had been built during the civil Wars has been since demolished.

*Seyne* has the Title of a County depending on the Archbishop of *Ambrun*, as we have already hinted, however *Sanfon* puts it in *Provence*, and some will have it to be a remainder of the ancient *Sentii*.

*Guillestre*



*Guillestre* is a good Village, not otherwise considerable than that it gives its name to a River, and is one of the Passes of *Dauphine* into the Marquisate of *Saluces*, and so farther into *Piemont*.

## Of Brianconois.

**T**His Mountainous Country reaches 18 or 20 Leagues East and West from *Pignerol* to the Mountains call'd *Produissen*, and 16 North and South from *Chateau-Dauphin* to *Col de La Roue*. It was formerly of a narrower extent, before *Pignerol*, and the adjacent Vallies were yielded to the French King. In this Territory falls a sweet and purging Dew, called *La Manne de BRIANCON*, and accounted one of the seven Wonders of this Province.

The Capital *BRIANCON* is now the head of that Bailiwick, and the Seat of a Presidial, but was never a Bishoprick, tho *Robbe* calls it so. Under the *Dauphins* it had the Title of a Principality, of which they bore the name, but under the *Romans* it was at first one of the places where they used to incamp; but by little and little it became a Place of some note. Both this Town and Country made part of the Kingdom of *Cottius*, that famous *Gaulish* Prince, whom *Augustus* not being able to subdue, persented with

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with the Alliance of the *Roman* Empire. His whole Realm consisted in 12 Towns, of which *Suse* was the Capital; but he knew so well how to intrench himself, that both his Subjects, and his Enemies concurr'd to give his name to the Mountains whereon he reign'd, calling them *Cottian Alps*, during the extent of 14 Leagues from Mount *Viso* to Mount *Cenis*. This Town in *Latin* *Brigantio* or *Brigantium*, depended for a long time upon the *Segusiones*, or the Princes of *Suze*.

*BRIANCON* is now built on the foot of a Rock, near Mount *Genevre*, on the meeting of two small Brooks, one of which bears the name of *Dure*, viz. the most Easterly, and the other that of *Ance*; but after their junction, the common name of *Durance*. *BRIANCON* is esteemed by reason of its Situation the highest Town in *Europe*, tho it be commanded by a Castle, built upon the Rock, at the bottom of which the Town lies. Two Leagues South of *BRIANCON*, is a pierced Rock, call'd *Pertuis Rostan*; some believe that *Cesar* caused this Passage to be made thorough this Rock for his Troops, at his entrance into the *Gaules*. Others are of opinion, that it is the same Rock, which *Hannibal* caused to be pierced with Fire and Vinegar, that his Elephants might pass thorough; others again think that it is a Work of King *Cottius*, in honour of *Augustus*, whose Statue he erected upon it. Whatsoever it may be, *BRIANCON* has not been considerable before the 13th Century. In the last Age the Leaguers seized upon it; but the Duke of *Lesdigueres* took it from them in 1590. This Town has



produced one of the learnedest Mathematicians of France, called *Oronce Finé*, who was professor Royal at *Paris*, and died in 1555.

*Pignerol* is properly a City of *Piedmont*, and formerly was the Title and Portion of the Dukes of *Savoy's* youngest Sons. It is seated upon the small River *Cluson* or *Chisson*, which falls into the *Po* near *Moncallier*, two Leagues South of *Turin*. It had formerly a good Cittadel only; but since the *French* have it in their possession, they have fortified it so as to make it almost an impregnable place. The Cittadel is built on a Rock, and the Town between the last Mountains of the *Alps*, seven Leagues South-East of *Turin*, and 12 North West of *B R I A N C O N*. There is a Fort call'd *St. Bridge*, which has communication with the Cittadel by a cover'd way, and subterraneous passages. The Duke of *Savoy* at the head of the Confederate Forces, took it this year 1693. But instead of going on vigorously with the Siege of the Town and Cittadel, they left them block'd up, and went to fight *Catinat* the *French* General, who lay incamp'd with 12 or 14000 Men betwixt the Mountains of *Col de Fenestrelles*, and *Col de Rossa*, seven or eight Leagues North West of *Pignerol*. But when they were gone so far, they perceived they could not come at him: So that after much time lost they went back, and open'd the Trenches before *Pignerol* in September, rais'd the Siege, and were defeated, *October* the 4th 1693.

'Tis a pleasure to read the cunning fetches of that shrewd Politician, Cardinal-Ribellieu, to get this Strong-hold into his Master's Hands. There arose a Civil War in *Piedmont* (perhaps by this subtle



subtle Minister's Devices) The Uncles of the young Duke, pretending to the Regency against the Dutchess Dowager, who had been left in possession of it by her Husband. As she was a Princess of the French Blood, she presently implor'd the assistance of her Cousin, especially seeing that her Competitors were assisted by the Spaniards. It had been an easy matter for the French Monarch, to maintain the Dutchess in the quiet possession of her Right: But the Policy of his chief Minister suffered her to come to that extremity, that she kept nothing else beyond the Alps, besides *Turin* and its Cittadel. Whilst she was in those Fears, she was promised a sufficient Succor to restore her into all her Dominions, provided she would yield to the French King *Pignerol*. and all the Vallies, of *Piedmont*. She was very loath to part with such a large Portion of her Territories; but at last, for fear of loosing all, she consented to yield *Pignerol*, with the Vallies on the East-side of the River *Cluson*; whereupon the Treaty was secretly concluded in the Town of *Queyras*, the 31th of *March* 1631; so that ever since, the important Vallies of *Perouse* and *Pragelas* belong'd to the French King.

There are some other places, that give their Name to Vallies; as the Burough of *Bardonaiche*; the Town of *Queyras*, with a strong Castle and a Mountain washed by the River *Guillestre*, the Burough of *Chasteau-Dauphin*, which seems to have been built by the Princes of that Country, against the IncurSIONS of the *Piemontois*; for it lies on the utmost Borders of *Dauphine*, ten Leagues South East of *BRIANCON*.







*Gere*, lies 8 Leagues South of *Lyons*, 18 North of *Valence*, and as many North-West of *Grenoble*: It is accounted one of the antientest Towns in the *Gauls*, and even in all *Europe*, and therefore its original is very uncertain, for 'tis not likely that it should have been built by *Vennerius* an *African Exile*, and called *Bienna*, because it was raised in two years; for the *Latin Tongue* was not yet so far spread, as to derive the *Etymology* of such an antient Town, from one of its compounded Words. Neither is the Original related by *Stephanus* less fabulous: for he pretends that the Inhabitants of *Biennus* a Town of *Crete*, or *Candie*, which nobody mentions but himself, being driven out of their Country by a great drought, came by the direction of the Oracle to a marshy place along the *Rhone*, where they built this Town and call'd it *Bienna* from the name of one of their Virgins, who had been swallowed up by the ground, whilst she was dancing. But as this Town is named *Vienna Allobrogum* by the antient Geographers, who used to give to Cities the name of their Founders; so it is apparent, that it has been built by the Natives of the Country, the *Allobroges*. However 'tis still very difficult to determine the time of its Foundation; only we know that about the year 366 of *Rome*, when the *Senenoi* passed over *Italy*, they built two Temples at *Vienna*, one dedicated to *Mars*, and the other to the *Victory*.

This Town has flourished a long time under the *Romans*. *Tiberius Gracchus* built there a Bridge in 566 of *Rome*, and fortified the two ends of it with a strong Castle. *Cæsar* made it



his Store-house for Arms. *Tiberius* built there that high Tower which the People call the Tower of *Pilate*, as though he had died in this place. There is another antient Building now named *Notre Dame de La Vie*. Our Lady of Life, which was formerly a Heathen Temple, where the Romans used to render Justice; for which reason the People calls it the Pretory or the Palace of *Pilate*, as though he had sat there as Judge during his Banishment. They add, that he was a Native of *Vienne*, but there is no proof of his being born or ever exil'd thither, and this fabulous Tradition seems to take its Original from *Humbert Pilati*, Secretary to the last Dauphin, who had a Country-House near *St. Vallier*, which the vulgar also calls the *House of Pilate*.

The Emperor *Galba* granted many Privileges to this Town, in requital of the affection of its Citizens, who had declared for him against *Nero*, whilst those of *Lyons* held still for that Tyrant, wherefore he also confiscated their Goods. During the Civil Wars of *Otho* and *Vitellius* a Captain of the last took *Vienne* in his possession; and while this Emperor was sitting on the Tribunal Seat, a Cock light'd on his shoulders, and then on his head, signifying as the *Augures* explain'd it, that he should fall into the hands of a Gaulish Man; and so it happened, for the first who defeated him was one *Antony* of *Tolosa* Nickname *Becco*, or *Cock-beak*. *Diocletian* and *Maximian*, who strove to perpetuate their memory, through the most famous Cities call'd one of this Town-Gates *Herculia*.

Besides



Besides all this *Vienne* is remarkable for the Banishment of *Archelaus*, *Herode* the Great's Son and Successor; for being the Native Country of *Valerius Asiaticus*, who was twice Consul, which shews that the *Viennois* were a Roman Citizens born, and might become Senators in that Capital of the World. There also it was that *Julianus Caesar* began his Consulship by the Celebration of solemn Games; that the Emperor *Valentinian* the young was kill'd by Count *Arbogast*; *Constant* the Usurper by *Gerontius*, and *Godegile* Prince of *Burgundy*, by his Brother *Gondebaud*.

The Romans had adorned *Vienne*, in which they much delighted, with several Magnificent Buildings, as an Amphitheatre, an Aqueduct, a Palace, &c. whereof there are still considerable remains, and this is not at all strange, since *Vienne* was the Capital of the *Narbonnoise*, which they first conquered and beautified above the rest.

The *Burgundians* were the first, who took this Town from the Romans, and made it the head of their Kingdoms, but after they had been subdued by the French, *Vienns* remained united to that Monarchy, till it became part of a second Kingdom of the *Burgundians* in *Charles* the Simple's time. At the dismembring of this new Realm, it passed under the Power of the *Dauphins*, who intituled themselves *Dauphins* of *Viennois* and Counts of *Albon*, a Castle along the *Rhone* between *Vienne* and *Valance*. It will be worth our enquiry to see how this great Town is by degrees fallen to the low State it is now in, for 'tis hardly extended a



Mile in length from Lyons Gate to that of Avignon, and its breath comes not near it. Vienne was then at first the Capital City of the *Narbonnoise*, that is of *Savoy*, *Dauphine*, *Provence* and *Languedoc*; and when it was converted to Christianity its Metropolitan, had under him the Bishops of all their Provinces. And indeed the first Christians of Vienne, besides the Dignity of their Town, seem'd to deserve that honour; for they not only confessed the name of our Saviour in the middle of a cruel Persecution, under the Emperor *Decius*, but also encouraged the other faithful by their Writings and Examples, as may be seen by a Letter, which *Eusebius* has inserted in his Ecclesiastical History. Soon after the *Narbonnoise* was subdivided into 5 Provinces of which the *Viennoise* had the honour to be the first, and had 13 Episcopal Cities depending on it. In process of time *Arles*, one of its Suffragans growing in Wealth and bigness, was crested into an Archbishoprick, and deprived its Metropolitan of seven of its Suffragans, of which however it kept but 4, viz. *St. Paul Trois Chasteaux*, *Orange*, *Marseille* and *Toulon*; the Popes making afterwards their dear *Avignon* an Archbishoprick, and subjecting to it the Cities of *Vaison*, *Cavaillon*, and *Carpentras*; so that the Metropolitan of Vienne, has now but 5 real Suffragans, viz. *Valence*, *Die*, *Viviers*, *Grenoble*, and *St. John de Maurienne*, to which may be added the Titular Bishop of *Geneve*.

But the greatest unhappiness of Vienne came from that which was designed to keep the Lustre of its Metropolitans, namely, the Gift which  
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the Emperors made to them of the Sovereignty of the Town; for this caused several broils betwixt these Prelates and the Dauphins, which by succession of time much depopulated this ancient City, so that in 1448, the Archbishops were forced at last to yield up their Right to Lewis the XIth. then Dauphin, and afterwards King of France. The name of this easie Prelate was John of Poitiers, whose Successors have been ever since in a little esteem, whereas his Predecessors made a great figure in the World. Vienne has had the Privilege of coyn- ing Money, as appears by several pieces, bear- ing its name under the first and second race of the French Kings.

Thirteen Miles North East of Vienne, lies upon a Mountain, the Village of Ponay, which Mr. Chorier esteems to be the place where the *Epaonense*, or *Ponense Concilium* was held, after the Conversion of Sigismund King of Burgundy, in 517. Adrian de Valois mentions a Village call'd *Ebao* or *Tortillane*, which 800 years ago belong'd to the Archbishops of Vienne, and consequently did not lye far off; and thence in- fers that *Ebao* and *Epaone* are the same name; but I find no such place, as *Ebao* or *Tortillane* in my Maps.

The first considerable Town after Vienne in this Diocese, is Romans upon the Isere, fifteen Leagues South East of Vienne, and 14 West of Grenoble. It was originally an Abby founded by one Bernard Archbishop of Vienne, and call'd *Romanis* or *Romanum Monasterium*; either be- cause the Romans were yet Masters of the Coun- try, or that he put in Monks and Clerks coming



out of Rome. Whatever be of that, the Jurisdiction of the Town, formerly belonged to the Collegiate Church of St. Bernard, but in 1344. Pope Clement the VI. made a gift of another Mans property, by transferring it to the Dauphin Humbert, who yielded him up *Avisan*. 'Tis observed, that the Situation of this Town, has some relation with that of *Jerusalem*, and especially a small Hill within its Walls to Mount *Calvaire*; which was the reason that one *Romanet Boffin*, who had travelled into the Holy Land, erected there a Building representing the St. Sepulchre, with a Monastery for *Franciscan Fryers*, in 1520. In 1562, the Protestants becoming Masters of the Town, plunder'd the said Convent and Church.

St. Marcellin 7 Leagues North East of *Romans*, and 8 West of *Grenoble* is the head of a small Bayliwick, that takes up 6 or 7 Leagues of the North end of the Diocese of *Vienne*. On the Borders of this Bayliwick, 8 Leagues North East of St. Marcellin, and 6 North of *Grenoble* is the Burrough of *Voyron*, where was a famous Abby, and a goodly Town called in the old *Chartres* *Visorontia* or *Veserontia*, if we believe the Jesuit *Labbe*; for *Adrian de Valois* conjectures more probably, that it is a place still called *Veseronce*, 4 Leagues North East of the Town of *Bourgoin*, one South of the County of *Bouchage*, and 2 West of the *Rhone*.

In the same Bayliwick, lies the small Town of *Thin* or *Thain*, 7 Miles West of *Romans*; it is seated upon the *Rhone*, over against *Tournon*, from which it is separated by nothing but this River. It must have been of some consideration



tion in the 4th. or 5th. Century, since the Maps of the Emperor *Theodosius* published by the Brothers *Peutingers*, mention it under the name of *Tegna*; 15 Miles North of *Romans* lies the Town of *Moras*, seated upon a Mountain 5 Miles of *St. Rambert* upon the *Rhone*.

Going out of the Bayliwick of *Grenoble*, 10 Leagues North of that City, you meet with the Town of *Pont de Beauvoisin* *Pons Bellovincinus*, so called, because it is built upon the River *Giere*; and divided into two parts, united by a Bridge. This part of *Viennois* is all mountainous, as well as *Savoy* and *Bresse* upon which it borders. The Inhabitants name it *Terres Froides*, and made a great Traffick of the *Vipers*, which abound in their Country. Six Leagues West of *Pont de Beauvoisin* is the famous Barony of *La Tour du Pin*, of which the *Dauphins* bore the Title. On this Barony formerly depended the Town of *Bourgoin*, which lies three Leagues farther to the West, and is renowned for its Trade of *Hemp*. Five Leagues North of *Bourgoin*, lies the Burrough of *Cremieu*, in Latin *Stramiacum*, where the Emperor *Lewis the Meek* kept an Assembly in 836. The Burrough of *Anton* upon the *Rhone*, 7 Leagues East of *Lyons*, seems to have been built or beautified by *Marc Antony* the *Triumvir*, both by its Latin name *Antoniacum*, and by these Verses of *Sidonius Apollinaris*.

*Pocula non heic sunt illustria nomine, pagi,  
Quod posuit nostris ipse Triumvir agris.*

For



For this Part of *Viennoise* was in the Territory of *Lyons*, wherein this Poet was born, so that he will say that the Country thereabouts afforded no better Wine than that of *Anton*. Six Leagues East of *Anton* upon the *Rhone*, and the Borders of *Bresse*, lies the Town of *Quirieu*; 3 Leagues North of *Vienne*, and 5 South of *Lyons*, lies the Burrough of *St. Saphorin*, renowned for its Post-asses. These Animals are so well taught, that they go to the Burrough of *La Guillotiere*, which makes part of *Lyons*, but shall not advance a step farther than the place where they are used to be let loose, though you should beat them never so much, and the same they do in their return to *St. Saphorin*.

I supersede to describe the many Lordships that are in this Country, as the Marquisates of *Virieu*, and *Omacieu*, the Counties of *Diximieu*, *Serrieres*, *Bouchage*, *Roussillon*, *Anjou*, *Charms*; the Baronies of *Baubec*, *Anton*, &c.

Of



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Of VALENTINOIS.

**T**His Country, included between the *Rhone* and *Isere*, the Bayliwick of *Die*, and the *Tricastinois*, reaches 20 Leagues North and South, but hardly 6 or 8 East and West. The Southern part is more mountainous, the Northern more plain, but both abundant with all the conveniencies of life. The Capital *Valance*, lies upon the *Rhone* 6 Leagues South West of *Romans*, and 18 of *Grenoble*: The Latins call it *Valentia*, or *Julia Vallentia*; because of its strength, and of the Colony they had transported there. In their time it was Inhabited by the *Segalauni*, one of the chief People of the *Gauls*, and their Dominions extended even beyond the *Rhone*, since *Tournon* was in their Jurisdiction. *VALENTINOIS* was erected into a Sovereign County, at the dismembring of the French Monarchy, under the Successors of *Charlemaign*. The first Count thereof remember'd in History is one *Gontard*, who lived in 950, and who by the Sirname of *Poitiers*, which he left to his Successors, seems to be descended from the antient Dukes of *Aquitain*. I have observ'd how *Lewis* of *Poitiers*, yielded his Dominions to the French King *Lewis* the XI. who united them to the rest of  
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*Dauphiné.* Lewis the XII. erected this County into a Dukedom, for *Cesar Borgia* Son to Pope *Alexander* the VI. but the Lords of *Poitiers* made a solemn protestation against it, pretending their Father could not deprive them of their Inheritance. The Suit was along time depending before the Parliament of *Grenoble*; but what their good Right could not get was obtained by the Beauty of a Lady of that House, *Diane* of *Poitiers*, Mistress to *Francis* the I. who easily prevailed upon that King to present her with the contested Dutchy, which after her death was united again to the French Crown. *Valence* is the head of a Seneschalship, to which the Vice-seneschalships of *Cress* and *Montlimar* are resorting. It has likewise a Presidial-seat and Election, and an University for the Civil and Cannon Law, wherein Doctors are made, and the Famous *Cujas* has taught.

Its Bishop is Suffragan to *Vienne*, and the first is one *Emilian*. Its Cathedral is dedicated to another of its Prelates, called *St. Apollinaire*: But I must not forget that famous *Nicodemite* *John* of *Montluc*, Bishop of *Valence*, who liv'd under the Reign of *Francis* I. *Henry* II. and his three Sons, and was one of the most Learned Men of his time. He favoured the Protestant Doctrine openly enough, and often Preached it at Court. But whether he could not as easily resolve to forsake his Kitchen as Transubstantiation, as he himself used to say; or that he thought that his stay at Court would be more serviceable to the good side, than a publick abjuration; or that he did not like a Presbyterian Reformation; as 'tis reported that when the

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Ministers of *Geneve* wrote to him, he should come over to them to make a publick Profession of the Truth; he answer'd they ought rather to come to, and take orders from him, they having no lawful Mission; whatsoever it may be, he dyed in the Communion of the Roman Church, at *Toulouse* in 1579. Among the Monasteries of *Valence* is most eminent, the Abby of *St. Ruff* chief of the Order of *St. Augustin*, esteemed one of the most sumptuous Buildings of all *Dauphine*. The Foundation of this Town is uncertain, but it appears by several Inscriptions and Roman Monuments, that it is very antient. It is divided into Town and Burrough, and is defended by a Cittadel; for the other Fortifications which *Francis* the I. designed to make at *Grenoble* and *Valence* were never finished. In the Town are two Fountains, whose Conduits said to have been built by *Julius Caesar*, are indeed a Work of the Roman Magnificence; for they are vaulted, and so big that a Man may walk upright in them: the source and the end of one cannot be discovered, and along the other, which waters the Neighbouring Meadows, are the ruins of several antient Buildings. The Country People do not want fabulous Traditions, no more than their Neighbours at *Vienne*; for they will tell you strange Stories of a Giant called *Briard*, who was 15 Cubits high, and shew you some monstrous remains of his Bones; nay the *Dominican* Fryers assure, that they have still his true Picture, which they do not fail to shew to Strangers.



*Duchefne* relates, that in the Neighbouring Vineyards was discovered a Grave, at the opening of which was seen a Woman, having a golden Ring at each of her ears, with a Turkey-stone and Emerald incased in them; at her Feet was a Cup of Cristal, and at her Head a Lamp of Glass, but assoon as this dead Body was exposed to the piercing Air, it turred into dust. Between *Valence* and the fall of the *Isere* into the *Rhone*, at a Leagues distance from both is the Village of *Confolen*, where *Fabius Maximus* gave a total overthrow to the *Gaulish* Forces, in the Year 633 of *Rome*.

Thirteen Miles South East of *Valence*, upon the River *Drome*, lies the Town of *Crest*, formerly a dependance of the *Segalauni*, and a Castle of the Counts of VALENTINOIS. This French name is derived from the Latin *Crista*; because this Castle being seated between the River and a Neighbouring Mountain, appear'd as the Cap or the Comb of a Cock; and therefore it was the place of Arms of the Counts of VALENTINOIS, and the Count of *Montfort* besieged it in vain, in the 13th. Age. As this Town is conveniently seated between the Diocesses of *Valence* and *Die*, so it was the Seat of Justice for the upper part of both Counties. 'Tis observed, that in 1469, one *John Rabot* made a new Statute-Book divided in a hundred Articles, which were afterwards confirmed by the Parliament of *Dauphiné*. *Crest* had declared it self for the League in the last Century, but its Governor *Montroison* surrender'd it to the French King *Henry the Great*, in 1589, and since that time its Tower has been demolished.



Six Leagues South of Valence near the Mouth of the Drome is the Burrough of *Lauriol* or *L'Auriol*, *Laureolum* or *Aureolum*, with a Priorate of S. John's Order. *Montelimar*, almost nine Leagues South West of Crest, and 13 South of Valence, is a considerable Town seated upon a Mountain washed by the River *Rubion*; whence and from its Founders, the Lords of *Grignan* call'd *Adhemar* of *Monteil*, it has taken the name of *Montilium Adhemari*, and in French *Mentilly Monteil-Aymar* and *Montelimar*. Here it was, that one *Milon* the Pope's Legate assembled the Bishops of the Neighbouring Provinces, against *Raymond* the VI. Count of *Toulouse*, and the *Albigens*, in 1208. One *Girard Adhemar* made Homage of this Town to Pope *Gregory* the XI. and exchanged it with *Clement* the VII. for the Lordship of *Grillon*, but the *Dauphin Lewis* the XI. not liking this barter, got the Town of *Montelimar* again, restored *Grillon* to the Pope, and gave the Lordship of *Marsanne* to *Adhemar*, in 1446. In the last age the Inhabitants of this Town were among the first who declared for the Reformation, which drew several troubles upon them, and was the cause that it was taken and retaken several times. *Montelimar* has a very fine prospect, and is but a League East of the *Rhone*. It produces excellent Wines, which are almost the sole in that Country that will bear Carriage, and therefore are transported by Land, as far as *Grenoble* and *Chambery*. That famous Controversist *Chamier*, so much known among the Protestants of France, by his *Panstratia*, was Minister of *Montelimar*. In this Dutchy are farther remarkable the Burroughs



roughs of *Chabenil* ; *Estaille* , *Livron L' Auriol* and *Dieu le Fit* renowned for its Ear , then-ware ; the County of *Monteillerz* , &c.

## Of Tricastinois.

THIS Country, which makes a kind of Triangle, between the County *Venaissin* on the East, South and South West ; the River *Rhone* on the West , and the Vice-seneschallship of *Montelimar* on the North, is hardly extended 6 Leagues where it is broadest. The Capital *St. Paul Tricastin*, or, as the vulgar calls it *St. Paul Trois Chateaux* bears the name of one of its Bishops, and of its antient Inhabitants the *Tricastini*. . *Pliny* calls it *Augusta Tricastinorum*, but *Ptolomy* *Noviomagus No'apay* , which makes *Jos. Scaliger* and the Learned Jesuit *Sirmond* take it for 2 different Towns, whereof the last *Noviomagus* should denote *Nions* upon the River *Aygues*, almost 9 Leagues East of *St. Paul*, but *Adrian de Valois* does not think it reasonable to ascribe two Capital Cities to such an inconsiderable People, as the *Tricastins* ever were, for all what we find remembered of them, is, that *Hannibal* went through their Country, in his Journey to the *Alpes*. The first Bishop of *St. Paul* mention'd in History is one *Florentius*, who assisted to the Council of *Epaone* or *Ponay*, in



517. In the last Age, the Protestants were Masters of that Town during near 50 years ; but in 1590. Antony Du Cros, who had been named to that Bishoprick, sang Mass again in the Cathedral, after the Popish Worship had been expelled from it 44 years.

Grignan is a small Burrough, seated upon a Mountain 4 Leagues North East of St. Paul. It has the Title of a Barony ; but is much more considerable by the lustre of its Lords, who are known since the 10th. or 12th. Century, and have been intrusted with several important Charges in France, especially the Lieutenancy of Provence. You have yet in this Diocese Donzere, Pierre-Latte, La Palu, Suze, Mondragon, &c.

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CHAP.

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## CHAP. XIX.

*Of the Government Lyonnois.*

**T**HE most ancient Authors, especially the Greeks us'd to call *Gaule*, Celtick *Κελτική* and *Κελτοῦ αλατία*. Then that appellation became proper to that part, that was included betwixt the *Rhone*, the *Seine*, and the *Marne*, the *Ocean*, and the *Garonne*; but *Augustus* took off that which lay betwixt the *Garonne* and the *Loire*, to inclose *Aquitain*, and gave it the name of *Lyonnoise* from *Lyons* its Capital City. At this present the Government *Lyonnois* is far narrower comprehending only 6 Provinces, viz. *Lyonnois* properly so call'd *Forez* and *Beaujolois*, that are very little and make scarce together 25 Leagues North and South, and 35 East and West. The other three are *Bourbonnois*, *La Marche* and *Auvergne*, which reach all together 52 Leagues North and South from *Germigny* in *Bourbonnois* over against *Dun-le Roy* in *Berry*, to *Entraygues* in *Auvergne* on the River *Lot*; and 76 East and West from *Belle-ville* on the *Rhone* in



in *Beaujolois*, to *Availle* on the *Vienne* in the Country of *La Marche*.

Most of the Rivers that water this Government belong more properly to others, where you will find their course described, as the *Vienne*, the *Creuse*, and the *Indre* in *Orleannois*, the *Dordonne* in *Languedoc*, the *Loire* and the *Rhone* in the General Description, and the *Saone* in *Burgundy*. Remains then only the *Allier*, *Elaver*, which rises in the *Cevennes* on the Borders of *Gevaudan* and *Velay*, waters *Les-Chazes*, *Langeac*, *Peyrusse*, *La Voure*, *Brioude*, *Auzon*, *Issoire*, *Vic-le Comte*, *Pont du Chateau*, *Vichis* *S. Germain des fosses*, *Varennnes*, *Mulins*; receives in its way the *Alagnon* near *Auzon*, the *Duore* or *Dore*, and the *Siolle* or *Sioulle* increas'd with the *Bouble* near *Maringues*, betwixt *Pont du Chateau* and *Vichy*. Then falls into the *Loire*, 3 Miles South West of *Nevers*, after it has separated *Nivernois* from *Bourbonnois* during 10 Leagues.

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Of



## Of Proper LYONNOIS.

**L**YONNOIS properly so called is about 12 Leagues in length, and 7 in breadth; it is situated between *Dauphine*, from which 'tis separated on the East by the *Rhone*; it has *Bresse* and *Beaujolois* on the North; *Forez* on the West, and *Vivarais* on the South. Its Soil about *Lyons* is more proper for Wine than Corn; in other things it is abundantly fertil, affording great quantity of excellent Fruits, and some Mines of mixt Mettals. Besides the *Rhone* and the *Saone*, which carry abundance of things to *Lyons*; there are some small Rivers the *Azargues*, the *Mornance*, the *Brenne*, and the *Giez*, which have not 15 Leagues in their whole Course.

*Lyons*, the chief City of this division, and of the whole Government, is seated on the Confluence of the *Rhone* and the *Saone*; Its Situation is very pleasant, its Original antient, and its Trade the greatest in the Kingdom; so that *Lyons* is generally esteem'd one of the Principal Cities of *Europe*. Here is an Archbishop, who is Primate of the *Celtick Gaule*, the Archbishops of *Rouen*, *Tours* and *Sens* depending by right upon him, as *Metropolitans* of the second, third, and fourth *Lyônnoise*; to whom may be now added



ded the Archbishop of *Paris*, as the head of a 5th. Province. The Diocese of *Lyons* extends through all Proper *LYONNOIS*, *Forez* and *Beaujolois*. Here are also a Count of the Treasury of *France*; a Presidial Seat; a Seneschals Court; an Election, a Tribunal of Commerce, which is annexed to the Consulate, under the Title of the Conservation of *Lyons*.

Authors vary very much about the Foundation of *Lyons*, and the Original of its Name. Some say that *Lugdus* King of the *Celtes* was the Founder of it; so that from *Lugdus* and *Dunum* (which signifies a Mountain) did arise *Lugdunum*, or *Lugdunum*; some will have it to come from *Lug* (which in the *Cimbrique* Tongue signifieth *Fortune*) and *Dunum* a Hill, that is the Hill, or Mountain of *Fortune*; others from two *Gaulish* words *Lugo-dunum*, which they interpret the *Mountain of the Raves*. And others again from *Lucius Plancus*, who by order of the Senate brought thither a *Roman* Colony from *Vienne*. It is sure that before that time, that is before the *Triumvirate*, *Lyons* was already a considerable City, though not so famous as it became afterwards.

In 744 of *Rome*, 60 *Gaulish* Cities contributed towards the erection of an Altar, dedicated to *Augustus*, and built on the confluence of the *Saone* and *Rhone*, at a place call'd *Ainay*, where is still a famous Abby of *Benedictins*. Here *Caesar* celebrated Games, and Prises were given to those that deliver'd the best Discourse in *Greek* and *Latin*.

Under the Empire of *Nero*, a great part of this City was burnt down, to whose rebuilding  
this



this Emperor gave out of his Exchequer 400000 Sesterces, as much as they themselves had contributed before in troublesome times. This made the *LYONNOIS* so faithful to his interest, that they withstood *Galba*, and stuck to the false *Nero*, until they were undeceiv'd.

In *Antonine's* time, there was an Amphitheatre, which according to an ancient Chronicle, had been built by the Emperor *Trajan*, at a place call'd now *Serviere*, where stands the Collegiate Church of *S. Thomas*. In the Collegiate Church of *S. John* the Canons have the Title of Counts, and the Dean that of Duke.

*Pontius Pilate*, who condemn'd our Lord, was a Native of *Lyons*, and confin'd thither for his Concussions, as well as *Herod Antipas*, and his Miss *Herodias*, the Murtherers of *S. John the Baptist*, and starv'd there. *Pierre-Cize* is an old and strong Castle, where Prisoners of State are kept. It has its name from the Rock in which it is built; there is no Author who speaks of this City without giving it great Elogies. In antient Inscriptions it is term'd *Colonia Claudia Copia*, or the Colony of *Claudius*, and the abundance of *Gaule*, because the Emperor *Claudius* was born there; he mixt that Colony with that of the *Viennois*, and order'd that *Lyons* should be the Granary of the *Gauls*, as being situated between *Bresse*, *Bourgogne*, *Auvergne*, *Velay*, *Vivaraïs*, *Dauphine*, *Bugey*, &c. from whence it receives all sorts of commodities by the means of the two Rivers that water it. *Herodian* call'd it great and happy City: *Ptolemy* gave it the name of famous *Metropolis*; *Sidonius Apollinaris* call'd it *Rhodanusia*, or the best City



on the Rhone, Scaliger term'd it *un Nouveau Monde dans le vieux & un vieux dans le Nouveau*: a new World in the old, and an old in the new. The Country about that City is extraordinary pleasant.

The other places of some note in LYONNOIS are *Chavaney Coindrien* renown'd for its Wine, *Vimy, Chasselay, Anse* along the Rhone, *Tarare, Chazal, La Bresle, S. Genis-l' Argentier, S. Genis-la-Val, S. Saphorin le Chastel, Montagny, Revirie, S. Andiol, S. Martin en Farex, Rive de Giez, S. Chaumont* a Marquisate, known by the Manufactory of Silk, *S. Jean de Bonnefons, &c.*

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## Of FOREZ.

**F**OREZ *Segusianus Ager, or Pagus Forensis*, hath as great an Extent as *Lyonnois* and *Beaujolois* together; it hath *Burgundy* and *Bourbonnois* on the North, *Velay* and *Vivaraïs* on the South, the Mountains of *Auvergne* on the West, *Lyonnois* and *Beaujolois* on the East. This Country is very fertil, and famous for its great number of Noblemens Houses. It's proverbially said, that one may as soon number the Stars in the Firmament, as to count all the Rivulets and Brooks, which from all quarters of this Country fall into the

D d Loire.



*Loire.* It hath many excellent Medicinal Waters. It is divided into Upper and Lower: The Upper is near the *Cevennes*, and the Lower all beyond the *Loire* on the West-side. All this Country is full of Woods and Forests, especially the Upper part, whence some derive the name of it, and write it *Forets*; but other deny that Original, and spell it *Forez*, and the *Latin* favours their Opinion, besides that the Inhabitants are call'd *Foresiens*, and not *Forestiens*. They are famous through all the Kingdom, for their Trade of Iron-Wares, and for making all sorts of Iron-Works. This Country has still the Title of a County. It has had its particular Counts (who were also Counts of *Lyons*) since the year 1070. Some of them have been famous in History, as *Charles II. of Bourbon*, Lord High Constable of *France*, under *Francis I.* Soon after this County was re-united to the *French Crown*, by the same King. Its Principal Towns are, *Montbrison*, *S. Etienne*, *Roanne*, and *Feurs*. *Montbrison* *Mons Brusonis* Capital of Upper *Forez*, is situated on the little River *Vecize* 14 Leagues from *Lyons* towards the West, it hath a Bailiwick, an Election, and a Provostship; formerly it was nothing else than a Castle called *Brison*, afterwards inclosed with Walls, Anno 428. Here are a Collegiate Church dedicated to our *Lady*, and divers Religious Houses; with the best Clock-spell of the whole Province.

*St. Etienne de Furens*, *Fanum Sancti Stephani*, is a Town 2 Leagues E. of the River *Loire*, and to South-west of *Lyons*, it's situated at the foot of a Mountain on the Rivulet of *Furens*, whose Waters



ters are very proper for the tempering of Iron, which occasioneth a vast quantity of Iron-Works to be made in that Country, from whence many places of Europe are furnished. In a Mountain hard by, is a Mine of Stone-Coals, that burns since several Years.

*Roanne, Ródumna*, is the Capital City of a little Country, called *Roannois* in *Forez*, fifteen Leagues North-west of *Lyons*, having the Title of Dutchy, situated on the River *Loire*, which thereabouts begins to carry considerable Boats, wherein those that design to go to *Orleans* by water use to imbarck. In it is a Colledge of Jesuits; as also divers religious Houses. It had anciently its Counts issued from the House of *FOREZ*.

*Feurs, Forum Segusianorum*, is situated on the River *Loire*, where it receiveth the little River *Lignon*, so famous in the Romance of *Astrea*, between *Lyon*, *Roanne*, and *S. Etienne*. It lies nine or ten Leagues West of *Lyons*.

*St. Galmier* upon the *Loire*, half-way betwixt *Feurs* and *S. Etienne de Furens*, is renowned for a Fountain, whose Water tastes like Wine; and 'tis said, that if one mixes a fourth part of Wine with it, that mixture cannot be distinguished from pure Wine.

*St. Ferreol*, a League East of the *Loire*, and 3 South-west of *S. Etienne de Furens*, has a Bayliwick as well as *Bourg-Argental*, on the borders of *Velay*, 3 Leagues West of the *Rhone*.

On the West-side of the *Loire*, you meet with *Leignieu*, *Montarchior*, *S. Rambert*, *Bouen*, *S. Germain-la-Val*; *Urfé*, a Marquisate, the small Country of *Chevaux*, with the Capital *S. Just*, *Crouzet*, *Chateau-Moran*, &c.



## OF BEAUJOLAIS.

**B**EAUJOLAIS, *Belle-Jocensis Pagus*, having the Title of Barony, is situated between the *Saone* and the *Loire*; it hath *Lionnois* on the South; the Principality of *Dombes*, and part of *Maconnois* on the East; *Charolois* on the North, and *Forez* on the West. This Country is very fertil in Wine, Corn, Hemp, and depends partly on the Bishop of *Macon*, viz. the most Northern Parts, but all the rest lies under the Archbishop of *Lyons*. Its chief places are *Beaujeu*, *Ville-Franche* and *Belle-Ville*.

*Beaujeu*, *Bellus-Focus*, is now only a Village, situated on the *Ardiere*, having a Castle which gave its name to *BEAUJOLAIS*, and the Lords of the House of *Beaujeu*, which is so famous and ancient, and seems to be a Branch of the House of *Savoy*. It's about 11 Leagues North North-West of *Lyons*, and is famous for some Sculptures, or fine Engraven Works after the Antique Fashion. *Ville-Franche*, *Francopolis*, or *Villa-Franca*, is seven Leagues from *Lyons* towards the North, being distant about half a League from the *Saone*; now it's esteemed the Capital of *BEAUJOLAIS*. It has a Collegiate Church, an Election, a Bayliwick, an Academy, and a Granary



Granary of Salt. There is the first Monastery of Franciscans that was ever built in France.

*Belle-Ville*, is distant from *Lyons* about 10 Leagues, and is very nigh the *Saone*. The other places, as *Pereux*, *Tizy-Reignie*, are but inconsiderable Burroughs or Villages.

## OF BOURBONNOIS.

**B**OURBONNOIS, *Burbonensis Pagus*, hath *Forez* and *Bourgogne* on the East, *Berry* on the VWest, from which it is separated by the *Cher*; *Auvergne* and *Forez* on the South, and on the North it hath *Nivernois*, with part of *Berry* from East to VWest; it extends it self about 30 Leagues, and about 18 or 20 from South to North. This Country abounds with Fruits, Rye and Pulse; Pastures, VVallnuts, Oil, and Mines of Iron.

*BOURBONNOIS* is divided into upper and lower, according to its proximity to the Mountains of *Auvergne*. *Montargis* is accounted the Capital of the Upper, and *Moulins* in the Lower of the whole Country. The ancient *Baii*, a Celtick Nation, having exhausted themselves, by sending Colonies into *Italy* and *Germany*, were afterwards extinguished in the *Gaules*; but some of the German Plantation re-entring their original Country in company of the *Switzers*; the lat-



ter were defeated by the *Romans*, and the former settled themselves in some part of the Territories of the *Autunois*, with the leave of the Inhabitants, and of the *Romans*. The place is thought to be *Moulin's*, because it depends on the Bishop of *Autun*; whereas the rest of *BOURBONNOIS* resorts either to the Bishop of *Nevers*, to the Archbishop of *Bourges*, or to the Bishop of *Clermont*.

The *Loire*, the *Allier*, with other little Rivers, and many Ponds in this Country afford great variety of Fish to the Inhabitants. Its Mineral Waters occasion a great confluence of Strangers.

The learned *Gui Coquille* says, that *BOURBONNOIS* consisted at first only of *Bourbon Larchambaud*, and some adjacent Lordships; but that its Counts encroaching upon their Neighbours made it such a large Country as 'tis now: An Image of what the *French Kings* of that Family should do. *Robert II. Son to Lewis IX.* was the first Prince of the Koyal Blood of *France*, who bare the name of *Bourbon*, having spoused the Heiress of it.

*Moulins, Molins*, situated on the *Allier*, in a Plain very large, fertil and pleasant. It has that name from the many Water-Mills that are about it; and its rise, if we believe *Samson*, from a Bridge which *Cesar* rebuilt here. This Town has a strong and fine Castle, and is especially renowned for the good Knives and Cizers that are made in it. Formerly 'twas the ordinary Residing-place of the Dukes of *Bourbon*.

*Moulins* is divided into four Parts; the City it self, the new Town, the Suburb of the *Carmelites*, and that of the *Allier*. It's a City pretty ancient,



ancient, and its Medicinal Waters render it very famous. It hath a Collegiate Church, 3 or 4 Parishes, divers religious Houses, a Colledge of Jesuits, a Presidial-Seat, a Generality, on which the Elections of *Montluffin*, *Gannat*, and *Esvaux*, and several others in *Nivernais*, and Upper *Marche* are depending. *Moulins* lies 3 Leagues North-west of *Lyons*.

*Bourbon-l'Archambault*, *Burbo Erchenbaldi*, is a Town and a Castle situated in a fruitful Valley betwixt four Mountains. It is as ancient as King *Pepin's* time, and was but at first a Barony, which the French King *Charles* the First erected into a Duchy and Peerdom in 1327. The Castle is seated on a Rock, and surrounded with 24 Towers. The Dukes have founded there an Holy Chappel, with 12 Canons and a Treasurer. There are also a large Pond, and renown'd Baths.

The other places of *Bourbonnois* are *Vichy*, *Cusset*, a fortified Town: *S. Germain-des-Fossés*, *Billi*, *La Palisse*, a County where is a fine Castle, and a large Park. *S. Germain-le-Puy*, *Varennes*, *Faligni*, *Dampierre*, &c. All betwixt the *Allier* and the *Loire*. *St. Amand*, at the foot of the fortress *Montrond*, that was raz'd in 1652. *Ainay-le-Vieux* and *Montluçon*, all three upon the *Cher*. The last lies in a very good Territory, with Woods, Pastures and Vines. Near it is a Box-Tree Warren, which being green all the year round, goes there for a Wonder. *Neris* is famous because of its Baths, and has 13 Mills upon a Brook of warm Water. *La Marche* is the Capital of the little Country of *Combraille*. *Montegut lez Combraille* resorts to no inferior



Justice, but depends immediately on the Parliament of *Paris*. *Chantelle* and *Fourrilles*, are two Marquisates, the former of which has a very fine House. *Bellenave* is a considerable Lordship. *Ville-Franche*, *St. Hilaire*, *Herisson*, *Sancoin*, are places of some note, all lying betwixt the *Allier*, and the *Cher*.

## OF AUVERGNE.

**A**UVERGNE, *Arvernia*, having the Title of a County, hath *Forez* on the East; *Bourbonnois* on the North; *Limousin*, *Quercy* and *La-Marche*, on the West; *Rouergue*, and the *Cevennes* on the South. This Province from North to South is about forty Leagues, and about thirty from West to East. It's divided into Higher and Lower. The Lower called *Limagne*, *Lemane*, lieth along the River *Allier* in a very fertil Plain, abounding in Corn, Wine, and Mineral Waters. They trade much in Tapestry-Hangings, Laces Cloaths, Knives, and other Commodities. The Inhabitants in general are skilful, industrious, good Soldiers, and understand their Interest very well.

The *Auvergnats*, *Arverni*, have been one of the Wealthiest and Mightiest Nations in the *Gauls*,



*Gauls*, and are said to have extended their Dominions to the *Rhone*, and the Mediterranean Sea. They were still powerful enough in the *Gauls* in *Cæsar's* Time, since the *Gerandans*, the *Velains*, and the *Quercinois* were their Tributaries, and *Vercingetorix*, an *Auvergnat*, had interest enough in the *Gauls* to make them rise against the *Romans*. They had some time before wag'd War against those Conquerors of the World, having in conjunction with the *Allobroges* attack'd the *Aurumis*, Allies to the *Romans*; but they had been beaten, and their King *Bituitus* taken Prisoner.

*Upper Auvergne*, or *Le-haut-pays*, lies in the *Cevennes*, which from thence are call'd the Mountains of *AUVERGNE*. The Capital *S. Flour*, *S. Flori Oppidum*, has its name from one *Florus* Bishop of the *Velains*. It lies on the top of a Mountain, which is flat, and is wash'd by the Rivulet *Lander*, call'd *Indiciacum*. It was erected from a Priory to a Bishoprick in 1317, by Pope *John XXII.* and the Chapter of the Cathedral was seculariz'd by Pope *Sixtus IV.* It is, and has been still an inconsiderable Town, eighteen Leagues North-East of *Rodez*, and 39 South-west of *Lyons*.

*Aurillac*, *Aureliacum*, bears most probably the Name of one *Aurelius* its Founder, though others derive it from an adjacent Lake, where 'tis pretended that Grains of Gold were found. There is a famous Abby of *Benedictins*, which has still the name of its Founder, being call'd *P Abbaye de S. Giraud*.

*Mauriac* is considerable for its Fairs, whether are brought vast numbers of Horses; and for a



College of Jesuits. *Madic* has a Castle, one of the finest Houses in the whole Province, both bordering upon *Limosin*. The other places are *Entraygues*, *Chaudes-Aigues*, *Carlat*, *Vic en Carladex*, *Roquebrou*, *Pleaux*, *Salers*, *Murat*, *Lastic* a Viscounty; *Massiat* a Lordship, *Alanches*, *Achin*, *Riom-des-Montagnes*, *Miramont*, *Blesle* &c.

The Mountains of *AUVERGNE* are not rugged and naked, but full of Grass and excellent *Simples*, which are much esteem'd by Physicians. The chief of this Country have a great Name through the whole Kingdom, and Milk is so abundant here, that it surpasses the quantity of the Wine that is made in Lower *Auvergne*, or at least in *Limagne* the best part of it. Mount *Cantal*, betwixt *S. Flour* and *Aurillac*, is the highest of all, being always cover'd with Snow, and has 3 Leagues in length.

*Lower-Auvergne*, is divided again into two Parts by the River *Allier*, and the East-side is called *Limagne*, *Lemane*, *Limmane*, and *Limane*, since the Time of *Gregory of Tours*. *Clermont*, *Nemetum*, *Augustonemetum*, afterwards *Arterni*, and at last *Clarus Mons*, the Capital of all *AUVERGNE* is seated upon a Mountain, whence it has its modern Name, betwixt two Rivulets, *Artier* and *Bedat*, that discharge themselves into the *Allier* on the West-side. It has the Title of a County, a Court of *Aydes*, a *Presidial*, and a Bishoprick Suffragan of *Bourges*.

*Celins Rhodiginus* relates, that in *Julius Caesar's* Time, there was a wooden Tower, that could never be burnt, because it was of *Larix*, which resists Fire.

In



In the Time of the Emperor *Nero*, *Zenodorus*, a famous Statuary, made there a *Colisse* of *Mercury*, 400 foot high, which was the cause that he was called to *Rome*, to make a *Colossean Statue* of that Emperor of an 110 Foot. There was then at *Clermont* a Temple covered with Lead, pav'd with Marble of inlaid Work, and having a double Wall 31 foot thick. The Cathedral Church is still a sumptuous Building, covered with Pewter, or Lead; mix'd with Tin. Mony has formerly been coyn'd here, as appears by a Tower that bears still the Name of the *Tower of the Mint*. The Records of this Town make also mention of a *Capitole*, where Weights and Measures were kept.

Not far of *Clermont* is a Mountain, call'd *Gergoye*, on which the ancient City of *Gergovia* was apparently seated. It's this Town which *Vercingetorix* so bravely defended against *Julius Caesar*, that he forc'd that great Captain to raise the Siege. There is likewise a Brook, called *Tiretaine*, whose Waters are thick and slimy like Pitch, and have such a petrifying Vertue, that all running, they form a Bridge, which the Inhabitants are oblig'd to cut, lest he should grow too great.

*Riom*, *Ricomagus*, lies three Leagues North-East of *Clermont*, upon a little Hill, which renders both its Situation and Prospect agreeable. It is very well built; the Streets are straight and wide, the Houses fine, the Churches magnificent, the Monasteries sumptuous, the Fountains pleasant, and the Gardens delicate; they live there both cheap, and with delicacy; so that 'tis call'd the Flower-Garden of *AUVERGNE*.

And



And its *Latin* Name, made up of two *Gaulish* words *Rico-magus*, signifies rich Habitation. *Riom* honours for its Patron one *S. Amable*, of whom *Gregory of Tours* says, that he had the Vertue of putting Serpents to flight. It's the Native Country of *James Sirmond*, and *Amable Burge*, two very learned Men. This Town is the chief of the Dukedom of *Auvergne*, of which all the Fiefs and Mesne-fiefs of the Province are Vassals, and was erected into a Dukedom, on behalf of *John Duke of Berry*, Son to the French King, in 1360. It is above 900 Years since the Judge of this Town was call'd the universal Judge of all the Province, because he judged by Appeal all the Law-Suits. It has a Seneschal's Jurisdiction, and a Presidial, which is one of the most considerable of the Realm, as well as a Generality of *Finances*; an Election, and both a Marshal, and Consular Jurisdiction. The Lieutenant General is also a Provost of the Court of Mint, and Judge of all the differences, that may arise in the Convocation of the *Ban*, and *Rear-ban* of the Province, which is made at *Riom*. Justice is administred there in a Castle or Palace, which *John of Berry* caused to be built.

*Aygne-Perse*, *Aqua Sparsa*, is the Capital of a little Country, called the *Dauphinè* of *Auvergne*, that is now united to the Duchy of *Montpensier*, which lies but a League North of it, and both Towns three or four Leagues North of *Riom*.

*Brioude Brivats*, lies upon the *Allier*, thirteen Leagues South of *Clermont*. It's famous for the Grave of *S. Julian* a Martyr, and for a Collegiate



giate Church of Canons, who are Counts of the Town, and depend immediately upon the Pope. The Bridge of the Burrough, called *Old Brioude*, has only an Arch, but extraordinary long and high.

*Issoire*, *Iciodurum*, upon the *Allier*, almost midway betwixt *Clermont* and *Brioude*, is renown'd for its good Race of Horses, and for a bottomless Lake, whence rises a Vapour, which resolves it self into Rain, if you throw a stone into it.

*Pont-gibaut*, 3 Leagues North-west of *Clermont*, has a Silver Mine in its Neighbourhood. Three Leagues more Northwards lies *S. Gervais*, where has been, as 'tis said, a Race of Conjurers, call'd *les Marques*, the last of whom cast himself headlong into a Pond. *Maringues* is much frequented for its Haven upon the *Allier*, which begins here to be navigable. It lies almost seven Leagues North-East of *Clermont*.

*La Queulle*, is a Castle near the borders of *Limosin*, six Leagues South-west of *Clermont*, which has in its Neighbourhood a Fountain that tastes of Wine, and has, say they, as much strength mixt with the sixth part of that Liquor. Hard by is a Mountain, called *Le Mont d'or*, The golden Mountain, because of some Chaffs like Gold, that are seen glittering in its Ponds, and of a sort of shining, yellow or golden Sand, that is used by Gentlemen to dry their Writings. Here is the source of the River *Dordonne*, and of several Springs very healthful to those that bath themselves therein.



The other places of note in Lower Auvergne, on the West-side of the *Allier*, are *S. Pourcain* near that River, and the Frontiers of *Bourbonnais*, from whence to *Langeac*, a Marquisate, near the *Cevennes*, the *Allier* is continually border'd with Vineyards. *Gannat*, *Esbreule*, *Menat*, *Manatense Monasterium*; *Essiat* a Marquisate, *Randan* a Dutchy, *Artonne*, *Enezat*, *Mant-serrand* over against *Clermont*; *Pont au mur*, *Hermene*, *Orcival*, *Cournon*, *le Crest*, *Pont du Chasteau*, *Besse*, *S. Perdoux*, *La Tour*, *S. Germain-Lambrun*, *Mercaur*, *Ardes*, *Blesle*, &c.

On the East of the *Allier* ( to which part of Lower Auvergne *Du val* appropriates the name of *Limagne*, tho other Geographers extend it farther to the West ) are *Vic le Comte* upon the *Allier*, 11 Miles South-East of *Clermont*. It's the Capital of a tract of Land, called the County of *Auvergne*, has a fine Palace, and a S. Chapel, pretended to be built by the Dukes of *Albany*. *Billom*, *Biliomagus*, is envirored with pleasant Vineyards. *Thiers* or *Tiern*, *Tigernum Castrum*, is renowned for the good Knives and Cizers that are made there: *Lezoux*, for the goodness of its Air, and its excellent Melons. *Arlenc*, is the Capital of a small Country, nam'd *Livradois*, because it was rid or delivered of the overflowing Waters, by digging a Channel a thousand foot in length through a Mountain.

The other places are *Alegre* a Marquisate, *S. Paullian*, *Paulliaguet*, *la Voute-Chillac*, *la Cheze-Dieu Casa Dei*, *Auzon Alsoua*, *S. Germain-Lerm*, *Ambert*, *Saucilanges Celsinania*, *S. Amand-de-Roche-Savine*, *Corpiere Curva Petra*, *Oliergues*, *Puy-Guillaume*, *Manlieu Magnus*, with an Abby of *Benedictins*. Of



## Of La M A R C H E.

**M**A R K in the Teutonic Tongue , signifies Confines or Limits, whence comes *Mark-graaf-Marquis*, that is Governor of the Frontiers. This Province having been made up of the Borders of *Poitou*, *Limosin* and *Auvergne* has gotten from thence the name of *Marka* or *Marchia*, *La M A R C H E*. It has *Berry* to the North, *Poitou* to the West; *Limosin* to the North, and *Auvergne*, ( that is, the little Territories of *Combrailles* and *Franc-Aleu*, which are of its dependencies ) to the East. Its extent from West to East is about 30 Leagues, and from South to North fifteen , and in some places twenty. It's divided into Upper, whose chief Town is *Gueret*, and into Lower, which has *le Dorat*. The Lords of *Lusignan* or *Lezignan*, were counts of *La M A R C H E*, afterwards of *Angouleme*, and those 2 Counties were united to the French Crown, under King *Philip* the Fair. It has often been the Appannage of younger Brothers in France, especially of the House of *Bourbon*, and was at last re-annex'd to that Crown in 1331, after many Revolutions. This Country is but indifferent fruitful, and produces only some Pastures, Oats and Rye. There are good Horses,



ses, and they trade also in Oxen, Sheep, Hogs, and coarse Cloaths. Several considerable Rivers have their Source here; as the *Vienne*, the *Cher*, the *Creuse*, and the *Gartempe*. This Province resorts for the Temporal to the Parliament of *Paris*, and for the Spiritual to the Bishop of *Limoges*.

*Gueret Waraetum*, Capital of Upper *Marche*, has a Seneschalship, a Presidial, a Marshal's Jurisdiction, and an Ecclesiastical Court of the Diocese of *Limoges*, from which 'tis 12 Leagues distant to the North-East. Its name seems to come from the Latin *Vervæstum*, which signifies an unmanur'd Ground, whence has been made *Waraetum*, *Garaetum* and *Gueret*. This Town has an Election resorting to the Generality of *Moulins*.

The other places of some Note in Upper *Marche*, are *Bellegarde*, Capital of the little Country of *Franc-aleu*, with an Election under the Generality of *Moulins*; *Aubusson*, that gives name to a noble Family, whence is issued a famous great Master of *Maltha*, *Borlieu*, *Chenevaille*, *Jarnage*, *S. Julien*, *Chastelus*, *Dumaise*, all on the East of the *Creuse*. On the West of that River are, *Celle*, *Glenic*, *Sevignac*, *Grandmond* an Abby, chief of the Order of that Name; *Murat*, *Abun*, *Bourganeuf*, *Dougnon*, *Pont-aurion*, *S. Leonard*, *Chastain*, *Feletin*, &c.

*Le Dorat*, *Dauratum*, for *Deauratum*, Capital of Lower *Marche*, lies not far from the *Gartempe* and *Seve*, 12 Leagues North-west of *Gueret*, with an Election resorting to the Generality of *Limoges*. *Belac*, two Leagues Southwards is another pretty Town, with an Election under the same Generality. *Crouzan*, now an inconsiderable



considerable Village near the borders of Berry, has been the Residence of the ancient Counts of *La Marche*. The other places are *Brosse a Viscounty*, *Lussac-les-Eglises*, *les-Plats*, *Pont-S. Martin*, *Mombas a Viscounty*; *Availle*, *Confoulens*, *Briguenil a Viscounty*, all near the Borders of *Poitou*. *S. Junien*, *Embazais*, *Lesegaux*, *Oradour*, *Mortemar a Dutchy*, not far from *Limousin*. *Touron*, *Rencon*, *Maignac*, *la Sousterraine*, &c. East of *le Dorat*.

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CHAP.



## C H A P. XIX.

*Of the Government of Burgundy.*

**A**T the beginning of the 5th Century, under the Empire of *Honorius*, the *Burgundians*, *Burgundiones*, a German Nation entred into the *Gaules*, and having conquered several Countries from the *Romans*, their King *Gaudisele* laid there the Foundation of a Realm in 408, which under his Successor *Gaudicare*, in 413 took the name of its Conquerors, and was called the Kingdom of *Burgundy*, whereof *Vienne* in *Dauphiné* was the Capital. It was made up of some Provinces of the *Narbonnoise* and *Celtick Gaule*, comprehending *Switzerland*, *Savoy*, *Dauphiné*, the Northern part of *Provence*, *Burgundy Dutchy* and *County*. As they were War-like, and of a Stature that frightened the *Galli* and *Romans* (for *Sidonius Apollinary* describes them, as being 7 Foot high) they would have extended their Dominions farther; but that the *French* on the North, and the *Wisigoths* on the South and West, that were as barbarous, and as great Warriors as they, opposed their Progresses. By the Conquest of *Clouis*, the  
French



*French* having brought the *Wisigoths* very low, his Sons after his Death attack'd the *Burgundians*, and *Childebert*, and *Clotaire*, having kill'd or routed *Godomar* the IX. and last King of that Nation, in 527, their Empire finished 119 after its beginning. The *Burgundians* are esteem'd part of the *Vandals*, and were settled on the South-side of the *Danube*, in *Bavaria* and *Austria*, before their coming into the *Gaules*.

After this defeat, nothing remained of the ancient Kingdom of *Burgundy*, but the Name; for it was subject to the *French* during 340 years, until the Divisions of *Charlemaign*, or *Lewis* the Meek's Successors gave occasion to one *Beuves*, or *Beuvm*, to usurp the Sovereignty of it under *Charles the Bald*. *Bison*, Son to *Beuves*, plotted so well with the Prelates, that he got himself Crown'd King of *Burgundy*, by the Metropolitans of *Lyons*, *Vienne*, *Tarantaise*, *Aix*, *Arles* and *Besancon*, and 17 Bishops, in 879, his Son *Lewis*, surnam'd the *Blind*, succeeded him in 888, but his Grandson *Charles Constantin* was only Prince of *Vienne*, and never Crown'd King; one *Hugh*, Son to *Theobald*, Count of *Arles*, having made himself Master of *Arles* and *Italy*, in 926. This yielded all the Countries belonging to the Kingdom of *Burgundy*, to *Rodolph*, Son of another *Rodolph*, who in 888 had erected another Realm within the *Alps*, beyond *Mont Jura*, under the Name of the *Transjuran Burgundy*. In the mean while the Dutchy of *Burgundy*, fell again to the share of *French* Lords, from whom *Robert*, Son to *Hugh Capet*, King of *France* took it, in 1001, and left it, in 1031, to his second Son *Robert*, who was the head of the first



first Race of the Dukes of Burgundy. Philip I. the last of this Stock dying without Issue, in 1361, this Dutchy, with its dependencies was inherited by the French King John, who in 1363 gave it to his second Son Philip II. surnam'd the Bold, he was succeeded by John without fear, Philip III. or the Good, and Charles the Rash, who leaving but a Daughter, call'd Margueret, in 1477, the French King Lewis XI seiz'd upon the Dutchy of Burgundy, as a Male Fee, the Princess Margaret, who had spoused Maximilian of Austria, keeping Franche-County, and the Netherlands, as acquisitions of her Predecessors.

The chief Rivers of the Dutchy and County of Burgundy (for I think fit to describe them together to avoid confusion) besides the Loire, the Rhone, and the Yonne, already described, are the Serain, that rises near Mont S. Jean in Auxois, washes Noyers, Poilly, Chablys, Ligny-le-Chateau, and falls into the Yonne, betwixt Seignelay and Epoigny. The Armancon Springs likewise in Auxois near Chateauf, on the Borders of Dijonnois, washes Semur, receives the Brenne, increas'd with the Ozerain and Loze, goes by Aney-le-Franc, Tinnerre, S. Florentin, where it receives the Armance, and mixes with the Yonne, below Brignon l' Archeveque in Champaign. The Seyne, that has its Source in this Province near Chanceaux, on the Frontiers of Dijonnois, and runs through the Country of La Montagne, until you come to Bar-Sur-Seyne, receives there a vast number of Rivulets, among which the Leigne, the Ource, and the Arce, are the most considerable.

The



The *Saone* has its Source in the Mountains of *Vauge*, *Bonville*, *Attigny*, *Chastillon*, goes through *Jussy*, and *Pont-Sur-Saone*, receives the *Coney*, the *Angrogne*, and the *Laterne*, from the Mountains of *Vauge*; the *Mance*, and the *Ayron*, from *Champaign*, runs through *Chemilly*, *Rey*, *Gray* and *Pontraille*, receives in its way the *Fonvens*, the River *des Planches*, the *Salon*, the *Biez de Citez*, the *Vigence*, increas'd with the *Torelle*, and the *Lougnon*. This is a pretty long River that comes from the Mountains of *Vauge*, and is increas'd with the *Linotte*, and several Brooks. As to the *Saone*, it pursues its way through the Dutchy of *Burgundy*, waters *Aussonne*, *S. Jean de Laune*, *Verdun*, *Chalon*, *Tenare*, *Mascon*, *Thoissey*, *Ville-Franche* in *Beaujolois*, *Trevoux* in the Principality of *Dombes*, *Vimy* in *Lyonnois*, and *Mines* with the *Rhone* at *Lyons*.

The Rivers that fall afterwards on the West-side of the *Saone*, are the *Dou*. This is a River of a strange course, and as long as that of the *Saone*. It springs from Mount *S. Claude*, near a place call'd *la Motte*, in the Bayliwick d'*Aval*, in *Franche-County*. Then runs North-East along Mount *Jura*, till it comes to *S. Ursace*, near the Borders of *Elzas*. Here it makes an Angle, whereof *S. Hippolite* is the point. Near *Mont-Beliard* it begins to run South-west, waters *Besancon* and *Dole*, receives the *Louve*, and the *Orion*, with the *Glanstine*. One meets afterwards with no considerable Rivers; for the *Bruyne*, the *Selle*, the *Solvan*, the *Panette*, the *Dorlande*, the *Solinan*, the *Chevron*, *Sane-la-vive*, and *Sane-la-Morte*, are but Rivulets, that unite together before their fall into the *Saone*; the *Resouzes* goes through



through *Bourg en Bresse* and *Pont de vaux*; the *Vesle* receives the *Trance*, and the *Renon*, the *Charlarine* waters *Thoissay*, and the *Froment Amblerieu*.

On the East-side, the *Saone* receives the *Delune*, increas'd with the *Bourgeoise*, the *Corderin*, and the *Musin*, the *Grosne*, the *Marnaison*, the *Pan-set*, the *Ardiere*, and the *Torgon*.

Here are also several Rivers and Rivulets, that fall into the *Loire*, as the *Reconze*, the *Bre-bince*, increas'd with the *Oudrach* and *Arroux*, the *Paliars*, the *Cressonne*, and the *Airon*. Some do likewise fall into the *Rhone*, as the *Versoy*, the *Seran*, the *Fora*; but especially the *Dain*, an indifferent long River, which receives the *Sene*, the *Serpentin*, and the *Angelon* near its Source, waters *Campagnole*, *Tour de Maye* and *Pont-Dain*, receives the *Valouze*, the *Suzan*, the *Arbarine*, and discharges it self into the *Rhone*, betwixt *Gourdan* and *Loyette*.

This Government borders on *Champaign* to the North, on *Gastinois*, *Nivernois* and *Bourbonnois* to the West; on *Beaujolois*, *Lyonnois* and *Dauphiné* to the South, and on *Franche-County* to the East. It is now divided into 13 Parts, viz. *Dijonnois*, *Autunois*, *Chalonnais*, *la Montagne*, *Auxois*, *Auxerrois*, *Charolois*, *Briennois* and *Marsannois*. These 9 constitute the Dutchy of *Burgundy*; the other four, viz. *Bresse*, *Bugey*, *Gex* and *Dombes*, were acquir'd in 1601. from *Charles Emanuel Duke of Savoy*, by the French King *Henry IV.* in exchange for the Marquisate of *Salusses*. They make up in all 59 L. N. and S. from *Bar-Sur-Seyne* to *Trevoux*, 50 E. and W. where this Government is broadest, as from *Gex* to *Bourbo-l'Ansi*. Long. from 24 d. 15 m. to 27 d. 45 m. Lat. from 45 d. 32 m. to 47 d. 55 m. Of



## of DIJONNOIS.

**D**IJONNOIS, *Divionensis Pagus*, included betwixt *Auxois*, *la Montagne*, *Franche-County*, *Bresse* and *Autunois*. It's a Country extraordinary fruitful in Corn and delicate Wines.

The City of *Dijon*, *Divio Castrum*, is situated upon the *Ouche*, *Oscara*, and the *Rivulet Suzon*, in the Diocese of *Langres*, with a Parliament, a Chamber of Accompts, and a Mint, where Mony is coyn'd at the Letter *P*. The Parliament was instituted by *Lewis XI.* in 1476, and made Sedentary by *Charles the VIII.* in 1491. Before *Aurelian*, it was but an inconsiderable place, which this Emperour wall'd in, and adorn'd with Towers, Gates and Temples. It became afterwards more flourishing, when the Dukes of *Burgundy* of the Royal Blood of *France*, chose it for their Habitation, and the *Dijonnois* were so shrewd, that seeing their Princess married with a *German Prince*, who was not like to come and live amongst 'em, they treated privately with the *French King Lewis XI.* to deliver themselves and the whole Dutchy of *Burgundy* into his Hands, upon condition that he should establish among them Sovereign Courts of Justice, and of the Exchequer, which was done accordingly. This made *Dijon* be resorted unto the  
more;



more ; so that it is now one of the prettiest Towns in France. It lies 43 Leagues North of Lyons. The name of *Dijon*, *Divio*, seems to come from a Gaulish word *Div*, signifying Fountain, from whence many other Towns have been called, as *Divodurum Mediomatricum*, *Metz*, *Divona Cadurcorum*, *Cahors*, &c.

Here among other things are to be considered the Walls of the Town strengthened with Towers and Bastions ; the Castle flank'd with 4 great Towers, 2 Ravelins, and every where well fortified. A very fine *Chartreuse*, with the magnificent Tombs of several Dukes ; the Palace for Justice ; the King's Houle ; 16 Churches, 2 Abbies, 5 Hospitals, and the Guild-Hall. The States of that Country us'd to meet here every 3 Years.

*Beaune*, *Belnum Castrum*, lies 5 Leagues West of the *Saone*, between *Dijon*, *Autun* and *Chalon* ; it hath a Chancellery and a Bayliwick. It is indifferent ancient, and well built, situated in a Country extraordinary fertile, especially in delicate Wines, and watered with a pleasant little River, called *la Bourgeoise*, passing by the Town. It has an Hospital, which is one of the most sumptuous Building in France, and its Territory is called *le Beaunois*, *Pagus Belnensis*.

The Town of *Auxone*, or *Auxossne*, is situated upon the *Saone*, with a Viscounty and Bayliwick, almost 6 Leagues East of *Dijon*, and 5 Northwest of *Dole*, towards the Frontiers of the County of *Bourgogne*. It is considerably strong.

*S. Jean-de-l'Aune*, or *Lone*, *Fanum Sancti Johannis Laudonensis*, is a little Town upon the *Saone*; nigh to the Abby of *Cisteaux*, between

*Auxone*



*Auxone* and *Bellegarde*. It has an Abby of its own, founded by King *Theoderie*, and confirm'd in its Priviledges, by the French King *Robert*, under the inspection of the Bishop of *Chalons*. As to *Bellegarde*, now surnamed *Surde-Bellegarde*; it is seated upon the *Saone*, nine Leagues South-west of *Dijon*, and famous for holding out against the Imperial Army, Anno 1636, commanded by the undaunted *Galas Charles*, Duke of *Lorraine*, and the *Marquess de Grana*, with several others, who were forced to raise the Siege, being harrassed by *Josias*, Count of *Rantzau*, by his frequent Sallies cut off a vast Number of Men. The Abby *de Cisteaux*, chief of the Order of that Name, depends on the Bp. of *Chalon*, tho it lies 5 Leagues South of *Dijon*, and 2 West of *St. Jean de Laune*. *Robert* Abbot of *Molesme*, in the Diocese of *Langres* founded it, Anno 1098. This Town is properly in *Chalonois*. *St. Bernard*, with his Companions were there receiv'd, Anno 1113. Ann. 1115, they founded the Abby of *Clairvaux*, whereof that Saint was the first Abbot. That Order afterwards became very powerful, and hath produced many noted Men; as Popes, Cardinals and Bishops, and has now 1800 Monasteries under it self.

The other places of note in *DIJONNOIS* are *Fontaine-Francoise*, near the borders of *Champaign* and *Franche-County*, famous for the Victory of the French King, *Henry IV.* over the *Spaniards*, in 1595. *St. Seyne*, *Fleury*, *Beligny*, *Mulsan*, *Bere*, *Nuys*. As to *Rouvre* and *Argilly*, that were two Country-houses of the Dukes of *Burgundy*, they are but inconsiderable Villages.



## OF AUTUNOIS.

**T**His Diocese included betwixt *Auxois*, *Dijonnois*, *Bresse*, *Charollois* and *Nivernois*, is but a very small part of the Dominions of the ancient *Ædui*, which reach'd North and South from the Country of the *Senonois* to the *Cevennes*, and extended East and West from the *Rhone* and the *Saône* to the *Loire*, and a good way beyond it, comprehending besides the Dutchy of *Burgundy*, *Nivernois*, *Bourbonnois*, *Bresse*, *Forez*, *Beaujolois* and *Lyonnois*; for the *Segusiani*, who inhabited the three last Countries, and part of *Bresse* were Tributaries of the *Autunois*, and even the *Senonois* were under their Protection.

The *Autunois* being so powerful were easily tempted with the desire of making themselves Masters of all the *Gaules*; in order to which, they made Alliance with the *Romans*. But the *Auvergnats* and *Allobroges*, who had as much Power, and perhaps no less Ambition than they, opposed their Design, fought, and beat them, and would utterly have destroyed them, had not the *Autunois* call'd the *Romans* to their help. This Foreign assistance prov'd too powerful for their Enemies, who were easily subdued, together with all *Narbonnaise Gaule*, wherein the Quarrels of the *Marseillois* and *Salyans*, had



had already given footing to these Conquerors of the World.

The Contestations of the *Autunois* and *Sequani*, or *Franco-Countois*, were the cause of a second coming of the *Romans*. The *Sequani* being too weak for the *Ædui*, had invited the *Germans*, and with their Succors, defeated 'em twice. Upon this, *Divitiacus*, an *Autunois* Lord, was deputed to *Rome*, and Prevailed easily with the Senate, to send an Army into the *Gaules*. The Great *Cæsar* was chosen for this expedition, who knew to make a good use of the Friendship of the *Ædui*, and of the Dissensions of the *Gaules*; so that he overcame them all, one after another. The *Autunois* perceiv'd, but too late, they had been mistaken in their Politicks, and would feign have been rid of the imperious Master they had given to themselves, and their Country-men; but the *Gaules* were already exhausted in a manner of Men and Mony; neither had they learn'd the War-Stratagems, and Military Discipline of their Conquerors; so that their League with *Vercingetorix* for the relief of the *Alesia*, one of their Towns avail'd nothing, but to bring them into the contempt of the *Romans*, who deprived them insensibly of their Countries and Privileges, and made *Lyons* head of the *Celtick Gaules*.

The *Autunois* rais'd a third time under the Emperor *Tiberius*, but with as little success as before. They could never since recover their Liberty, and much less their Empire, but were always subject either to the *Romans*, the *Burgundians*, or to the *French*. But the greatest



losses the *Autunois* suffer'd, were by the rebellion of the *Bagaudes*, or *Gaulish* Peasants, who plundered the Country, and all the Towns they could Master, under the Conduct of one *Amand* and *Eliau*, but were at last defeated by *Herculius Maximian*, associated to the Empire by *Diocletian*. The two Emperours at the solicitations of *Constantius Chlorus*, *Cesar*, and afterwards Emperour of the *Gaules*, *England* and *Spain*, began to repair *Autun*, which *Constantius*, and *Constantine* his Son finished. For this reason the Senate of *Autun* made a Decree, that their City should be called *Flavia*, and the Inhabitants *Flavienses*, from the proper Name of these two Emperours *Flavius*; but this lasted only as long as the Family of the *Flavians* sat upon the Throne; for they retook afterwards their former Name of *Augustodunum*.

In the mean while, since *Augustodunum* is compound of a *Gaulish* and *Latin* word, signifying the Mountain of *Augustus*; it remains unknown what was the name of the Capital of the *Aidui*, before that Emperour, for *Bibraſte* was a considerable Town, not far from *Autun*, but not *Autun* it self.

In *Constantius* and *Constantine's* times, there was a Capitole dedicated to *Jupiter*, *Juno* and *Minerva*, a Temple of *Apollo*, and a famous School for Rhetorick and Humane Learning.

Before the *Autunois* were reduced into a *Roman* Province, they govern'd themselves as a Common-wealth, chusing every Year a Sovereign Magistrate, call'd *Vergo-brete*, who had absolute Power of Life and Death, and over their Goods. They had then a Senate of *Druides*, an

Act.



Academy for the Nobility of the *Gaules*, and a School for the younger Sort.

*Autun* lies now on the confluence of the *Aroux* and *Tavernay*, 37 Miles South-west of *Dijon*.

*St. Lazare*, of old, *Nazaire*, is the Cathedral Church, and very considerable, both for its Structure and Chapter. This City is divided into two Parts, Higher and Lower. The Diocese contains 24 Archpriests, and above 600 Parishes. The Bishop presides at the States of *Burgundy*. Besides the Cathedral, *Autun* hath a great number of other Churches; as also many Abbies, and other religious Houses.

*Bourbon l'Ansi*, *Burbo Anseli*, is a Town, and a Bayliwick, with a Castle, in the Diocese of *Autun*, about a Mile from the *Loire*, which separates it from *Bourbonnois*. The Territory of *Bourbon* towards the Frontiers of *Burgundy*, is encompassed with fertile Mountains; the Town it self is built upon the top of a little Hill; its Castle is guarded with a Ditch, hewn out of the Rock. During the Civil Wars it could never be taken, being defended by *Sieur d'Amanze*. The Mineral Waters of *Bourbon* were in great esteem, even in the Time of the *Romans*, and are as much now priz'd, since the Reign of *Henry the III.* who prefer'd them to all other Waters.

There are few other places worth to be mentioned, save *Vianges*, *Blanot*, *Chissey*, *Lucenay-l'Eveque*, *Icy-l'Eveque*, *La-Motte-S. Jean*, *le-Mont-Ceny*, *Brandons*, and *Drap-y-S. Loup*.



## OF CHALONNOIS.

**T**His Diocese, called also *Bresse Chalonaise*, was of the dependencies of *Autun*. It is included betwixt the County of *Burgundy*, *Bresse*, *Maconnois*, *Charolois* and *Autunois*.

The City of *Chalon*, *Cabillo Aduorum*, or *Cabillonum*, is situated on the *Saone*, with the Title of a County, a Bayliwick, and a Bishoprick Suffragan to *Lyons*, between *Verdun* and *Tenare*, 15 Leagues South of *Dijon*. The antiquity of this City appeareth from the great number of Statues and Inscriptions in the ruins of an Amphitheatre, and of many other publick Buildings. Here it was that the *Romans* made Magazines of Corn for their Armies, and afterwards the Emperours appointed the Rendevouze of their Forces at this place. It was almost ruined by *Aitila*; but soon after repair'd. The *French King's Gontran* and *Thierry* made their Residence here. This City is very spacious and fine; the *Saone* makes here an Isle, which they term *Fauxbourg Saint Laurence*, between two Bridges, one of Stone, and the other of Wood. The most remarkable things in this City are the Palace of the Prince, the Cathedral Church of *St. Vincent* (formerly of *S. Stephen*) consisting 25 Canons, whercof 7 are Dignitaries, the Dean,



Dean, the Singer, the Treasurer, and four Arch-Deacons. *S. Marcel* is esteemed to be the Apostle of *Chalon*; *St. Donatian* was Bishop of it in the 4th Century, and was at the Council of *Cologne*, Anno 346. Besides the Cathedral Church there are many Parishes; as *St. George*, *S. Laurence*, *S. Mary*, which is a Commandership of *S. Antony*, and a fine College of Jesuits. The Cittadel of *Chalon* is fortified with four Royal Bastions.

The Town of *Verdun* is upon the *Doux*, nigh its fall into the *Saone*, about 4 Leagues North-East of *Chalon*. The other places of some note are *Chaigny*, *Rully*, *Givry*, *la Ferte-Sur-Grosne*, *Tenare*, *Cuzery*, *Branges*, *Sagy*, *Savigny*, *Bojana*, *Bellivre*, *Paigny*, and *Seure de Belle-garde* a Datchy.

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### *Of the Country of La Montagne.*

THE Country of *la Montagne*, is situated toward the North of the Dutchy of *Burgundy*, about the origin of the *Seine*, betwixt *Franche*, *County*, *Champaign*, *Anxerrois*, *Auxois* and *Dijonnois*, and depends upon the Bishop of *Langres*, as well as *Dijonnois*.

The Capital is *Chatillon*, *Castellio ad Sequanam*, situated on the *Seine*, between *Aisei-le-Duc* and *Bar-sur-seine*, 31 Miles North-west of *Dijon*. It's a pretty good Town, and the seat of the Bailly



of *la Montagne* ; the River divides it into two Parts, one call'd the *Bourg*, and the other *Chau-mont*. Here are to be seen the ruins of an old Castle. It was the Native Country of *William Philander*, who has made learned Commentaries on the X Books of *Vitruvius*. *Bar-sur-seine*, *Barrum ad Sequanam*, is upon the River *Seine*, where it receives the *Ourse*, the *Arse*, and the *Leigne* towards the Frontiers of *Champaign*, about 7 Leagues North of *Chatillon*. *Bar* in old *Gaulish*, signifies a Haven, or the Port of a River. This Town is very pleasant, being well built, and seated in a fertil Soil. *Aissey-le-Duc*, 3 Leagues South of *Chatillon*, is nigh the River *Seine*.

The other places are *Mussy l' Eveque Espailly*, *Val des-Choux* an Abby, *Aigney le-Duc*, *Duesme*, *Baigneux les-Juifs*, *Villaine-en-Dormois* and *Verdonnet*.



## OF AUXOIS.

**T**His Country was inhabited by the *Mandubii*, Allies or Subjects to the *Autunni*. Their Capital City *Alesia*, rather than *Alexia*, was great and powerful, and built by *Hercules*, at his return from *Spain*, if we believe *Diodore of Sicily*. *Cæsar* laid Siege to it, and took it by Storm, altho' 'twas defended by 100000 Men; and that 300000 more were in their March to relieve it, and then raz'd it to the Ground; so that *Alesia*, *Alize*, is now but an inconsiderable Village, betwixt the Rivers *Loze* and *Ozerain*, 14 Leagues North East of *Semeur*. Whatever might have been the Confines of the *Mandubii*, at this present.

*Auxois*, is situated upon the Frontiers of *Nivernois*, *Autunois*, *Dijonnois*, *la Montagne*, *Champaign* and *Auxerrois*.

*Semeur* the Capital is a little Town, lying on the *Armancon*, 14 Leagues North of *Autun*. The *Latin* Authors call it *Sine murum*, because at first it was not wall'd up. At this time it is divided into three Parts, whereof the Burrough is the biggest. The second Part, call'd *Donjon*, is seated on a Rock, wash'd by the *Armancon*, defended with thick and high Walls, and flank'd with great Towers. The third is a round Castle



fortified with Towers, at 15 Paces from each other. This Town is governed by a Mayor, and 6 Sheriffs or *Eschevins*. It was taken by *Charles of Amboise*, one of *Lewis XI's* Generals, after the Death of *Charles the Rash*, last Duke of Burgundy.

*Auxois* depends for the Spiritual on the Bishop of *Autun*. The other places of note in this Country are *Avalon Aballo*, on the *Cousin*, which had a Castle so strong, that the French King *Robert* could hardly take it within three Months, in 1006. It's still a Seat of Regal Justice, 8 Leagues West of *Semur*. *Arnay-le-Duc*, on the Source of the *Arroux*, near the Borders of *Autunois* is another Royal Seat of Justice. *Flavigny*, *Flaviniacum*, is esteemed to be founded by some Emperour of the *Flavian* Family. *Montier S. Jean*, has a very fine Castle. *Noyers*, *Montreal*, *L'Isle-Sous-Montreal*, *Saulieu*, *Mont-S. Jean*, *Viteaux*, *Saumaize* are of some consideration.



## OF AUXERROIS.

**A**uxerrois is situated betwixt Auxois, Champaign and Nivernois, a Country of very little extent, but that formerly reached as far as does now the Diocese of Auxerre, and comprehended the Country of Paisaye, with part of Gaslinois and Orleannois. Auxerre, Autessiodorum, is situated on the River Yonne, towards the confines of Burgundy, 28 Leagues North West of Dijon. It has a Bayliwick, Presidial, Election, and a Bishoprick Suffragan of Sens. This City is pretty ancient. It's said, that Julian the Apostate did stay here for some time to refresh his Army, ann. 356. The Age following it was taken, and almost ruined by Attila, an 451. The French K. Robert took it from Landri, Count of Nevers, in 1005, but in 1015 he restor'd it to Renald Landri's Son giving him his Daughter Hadwide in Marriage. Their posterity enjoy'd it, till 1371, that John the IV. Count of Auxerre sold his Estate to the French King Charles the V. Charles the VII. was fore'd to yield this County to Philip III. Duke of Burgundy, but after the Death of Charles the Rash, Lewis XI. united it again to the French Crown. The Cathedral under the the name of St. Stephen has a very fine Quire, and



and a Tower extraordinary high. The Chapter is made up of 56 Canons, whereof the Dean is elected by the Chapter; all the others being nam'd by the Bishop, without excepting the Dignitaries, as the Singer, the great Archdeacon of Auxerre, the Archdeacon of Puisie, the Treasurer, the Penitenciary, and four Arch-priests. A Martyr call'd S. Peregrin is accounted the first Bishop of Auxerre; but S. Germain, who liv'd in the 5th Century, is the most famous of all.

The other Towns of Auxerrois, are Crevant upon the Yonne, known by the Rout of the Lord High Constable Steward, defeated by the English and Burgundians, in 1423. Coulange-la-Vineuse and Coulange-Sur-Yonne, Ouayne, Courson, Nitry, Segnelay a Marquisate.

## of CHAROLOIS.

**T**HE County of Charolois lies towards the South of Burgundy, between Bourbonnois, Briennois, Beaujolois, Masconois, Autunois and Nivernois. The Latin Historians of the French name is *Cadrellensis Pagus*. It had been bought by Charles, last Duke of Burgundy, from the Counts of Armagnac; and was therefore enjoyed by Margaret his Daughter, Maximilian of Austria her Husband, and the Kings of Spain their



their Successors, till the Peace of Nimueguen, in 1678.

*CHAROLOIS*, *Cadrella*, or rather *Quadrella*, is situated on the River *Reconse*, six Leagues North East of the *Loire*, and eight West of *Cgni*, and 12 South of *Autun*. It has a strong Castle, a Collegiate Church, and several Monasteries.

*Digoin*, *Digonia*, with the title of a Barony, on the confluence of the *Arroux* and *Loire*, is the only place mentioned by Latin Authors. The others are *Paroy-le-Monial*, *Toulon*, *Mont S. Vincent*; *la-Guiche*, *Chaumont* and *Oye*.

## OF BRIENNOIS.

**B**RIENNOIS lies between *Charolois* and *Atacconnois*, towards the Frontiers of *Beaujolois*. It is a very small Country, whose chief Towns, *Semeur* and *Anzi-le-Duc*, are not considerable.

## OF MASCONNOIS.

**M**ASCONNOIS lies towards the South-East of the Dutchy of Burgundy, betwixt *Beaujolois*, *Bresse*, *Chalonnois* and *Charolois*. The City of *Mascon*, *Matisco Aduerum*, is situated on the *Saone*, above 15 Leagues North of *Lyons*, with an Election, a Bayliwick, and a Bishoprick Suffragan of *Lyons*. It's a very ancient



cient Town ; for in *Cesar's* Time 'twas there that the Arrows of the Country were forg'd. It hath been often ruined by *Barbarians* ; but above all by *Attila*, the *Burgundians* and *Franks*, but since repair'd by several *French Kings*. It's now built upon the declining side of a Hill, wash'd by the River, that is pass'd by a fine Stone-Bridge, which joins the Town with the Suburb of *S. Lawrence*, where are 2 stately Towers, and pleasant Lanes leading into the Meadows. The Cathedral of *S. Vincent* was formerly dedicated to *S. Gervasius* and *Protasius*. Besides this Church there is the Chapter or Collegiate Church of *S. Peter*, whose Canons are bound to prove their Nobility, in order to their admission. There are also the Church of *S. Stephen*, a College of *Jesuits*, and several other Parishes and Monasteries. The Presidial of *Mascon* resorts to that of *Lyons*, and in last instance to the Parliament of *Paris*.

*Masconnois*, *Matifconensis-Pagus* is a fruitful Country, especially in excellent Wines. It has had particular Counts from *Alberic I.* in the 10th Century, till it was sold to the French K. *Lewis IX.* by Countess *Alix*, in 1238. It keeps its own States separately from those of *Burgundy* ; however at the same time. There are five Towns wall'd in besides the Cathedral, viz. *Tornus* upon the *Saone*, famous for an ancient Abby of *Benedictines*, under the name of *S. Valerin*, founded and endowed by the Emperor *Charles the Bald*. It depends on the Bishoprick of *Chalon*. *Clugni*, *Cluniacum*, chief of the Order of that Name. It was founded according to the rule of *S. Benoit*, by *William I.* Duke of *Aquitain*, Count of *Auvergne*,  
ne,



ne, on behalf of *Berno*, Abbot of *Gigniac*, in 910. The Monks of this Abby having murdered *William III. or IV. Count of Mascon*, whilst he was a hunting, made the vulgar believe that he had been carried away by the Devil. The other 3 Towns are *S. Gengoux*, that has been once the Seat of the Bailly; *Masfilly les-Nonains* and *le-Bois-S. Marie*.

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## Of BRESSE.

**L**A-BRESSE, *Brexia*, *Brissia*, or *Salus Brixium*, hath the *Dain* on the East, which separates it from *Bugey*; on the South it hath the *Rhone*, which divides it from *Dauphiné*: On the West the River *Saone* parts it from *Lyonnois*, and the Dutchy of *Burgundy* and *Chalonnais* lies on the North. It has about six Leagues extent from South to North, and nine Leagues from E. to W. This little Province aboundeth with Corn, Hemp, Pastures and Fishes. It's unwholesome in some parts, because of several Ponds, which send up noisom Vapours, and thereby corrupts the Mass of Air. As BRESSE depends for the most part on the Prelate of *Lions*, whose Diocese was inhabited by the *Segusi-ani*, and that the rest of this Province is under the Bishops of *Chalon* and *Mascon*; so it seems to have been subject to the *Autunois*. It was conquered from the *Romans* by the *Burgundians*,  
and



and from them by the *French*. In latter Ages it made part of the second Kingdom of *Burgundy*, then came to the Lords of *Beaune*, who possess the greatest part of it, during near 400 Years. The Lords of *Coligny*, *Villars* and *Montluel* had there also considerable Estates; but they melted all successively into the House of *Savoy*, from 1272, till 1402. At last *Charles Emanuel* Duke of *Savoy*, was forc'd to exchange not only this Province, but also the Countries of *Bugey*, *Valromey*, and the Bayliwick of *Gex* for the Marquisate of *Salusses*, that is a rich and plentiful Country, for a barren and mountainous.

The Capital Town of this Country *Bourg*, is situated on the little River *Reissouffe*, 7 Leagues East of *Mascon*, having the Title of a Bayliwick, Presidial and Election. It is seated in a Marshy, but fertil Soil, looking to the East on the Mountain *S. Claude*, and little Hills covered with Vineyards; and Westward it hath a great Plain, which extendeth it self even to the *Saone*. The City Government is in the hands of 2 Syndics or Sheriffs. *Philibert Emanuel* Duke of *Savoy*, built there a Cittadel in 1569; but it was demolished, ann. 1611. There are Halls spacious and well built, next to which is the Church of *St. Brou*, where several Dukes of *Savoy* lie interr'd, Pope *Leo X.* gave out a Bull to establish here a Bishoprick in 1515 and 1521, but Pope *Paul III.* suppressed it in 1534. The Presidial was instituted by the *French K. Henry IV.* in 1601. The Horses of this Country are esteemed.

*Montluel* is a little Village, but an ancient Lordship belonging to Monsieur le Prince, five Leagues



Leagues North East of Lyons. The other places are *Romenay*, *S. Trivier*, *Pont de Vaux* a Dutchy, *Bugey*, *Montrevel* a County; *S. Paul de Varas*, *Perouges* a Barony; the Native Country of the Famous *Mr. de Vaugelas*; *Varambon*, *Pont-de-Vesle*, *Chastillon*, *Coligni*, *Bouligneux*, *Villars*, &c.

## OF BUGEY.

**B**UGEY, is situated between the *Rhone*, which separates it from *Dauphiné* and *Savoy*; the *Dain*, which distinguisheth it from *Bresse*, and has the County of *Burgundy* to the North. Its extent from *Pont-Dain*, or the Bridge of *Dain* to *Seissel*, is almost 10 Leagues, and from *Dortans* to the Port of *Loyerre*, almost 20 Leagues. Although this Country be full of Hills and Mountains, yet it's abundantly fertil; for there are many Lakes and Rivers well stor'd with Fish, and Forests with Game both great and small; as Bears, Wild-Swines, Harts, Hinds, Hares, gray and red; Partridges, Pheasants, Wood-hens, &c.. This Country has ordinarily follow'd the Condition of *Bresse*, and been subject to the same Lords, as it was in the last Age to the Dukes of *Savoy*, and is now to the *French King*.

*Belley*, *Belica*, a League from the *Rhone*, and almost 17 East of *Lyons*, has a Bayliwick,  
in



an Election, and a Bishoprick Suffragan of *Be-  
sancon*; it's generally esteem'd very ancient,  
and was one of the Cities of the *Séquani*. It's  
not known who was the Apostle of *BUGEY*;  
for the first Bishop of *Belley* mentioned in Hi-  
story, is one *Vincent*, who subscribed to the 2d.  
Council of *Paris*, under *Childebert*, *Clovis* the  
Great's Son, and to the 2d. Council of *Lyons*  
under *Contran*, in 567. This Town was burnt  
to Ashes, ann. 1385; but *Amadeus* VIII. Duke  
of *Savoy* rebuilt it, and surrounded it with  
Walls and Towers. *S. John Baptist* is the name  
of the Cathedral Church; whose Chapter is  
composed of 19 Canons, four Dignities; the  
Dean, the Archpriest, the Primicier, and the Sing-  
er. They were at first regular, following the  
Rule of *S. Austin*, but they were made Secular  
in 1579.

The other Towns of *BUGEY* are *S. Rambert*,  
with an Abby of *Benedictins*; *Nantua*, that  
keeps still the name of the ancient *Nantuates*,  
mentioned by *Cæsar*: *Seissel*, an important pas-  
sage on the River *Rhone*; *Chateau-neuf* Capital  
of *Valromey*, *Chatillon* of *Michaille*, *Arban*, near  
the borders of *Franche-County*, *Arlon*, upon the  
*Rhone*, *Montreal*, *Ambournay*, *Lagnieu*, &c.



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### *Of the Bayliwick of G E X.*

**I** Am apt to believe that this Bayliwick, and and part of *Bugey* were the Habitation of the ancient *Nantuates*, since the *Veragri* were seated in the Country of *Vaux*, and the *Seduni* in the Diocese of *Sion*. However it be, this Bayliwick is but a little Country, having the County of *Burgundy* on the North; the Country of *Vaux* in the Canton of *Bern*, on the East; on the South it is separated from *Savoy*, by part of the Lake of *Geneva*, and the River *Rhone*; and on the West it has again part of the County of *Burgundy* and *Bugey*. The chief Town is *G E X*, which is the Seat of the Baily.

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### *Of the Principality of Dombes.*

**T**HE Principality of *DOMBES*, *Dombensis-Pagus*, lies between *Bresse* and the *Saone*, that separates it from *Maconnois*, *Beaujolois* and *Lyannois*. It's a Country very agreeable to live in. This Country contains 11 Chastelnies, whereof the chief is *Trevoux*, that is also the Capital of the Country. It has a Collegiate Church, a Bayliwick,



Bayliwick, and a Mint, where Mony was coyn'd with the Stamp of late *Ann Mary Louise of Orleans*, Sovereign Princess of *Dombes*, Daughter to *John Baptist of Orleans*, youngest Son of the French K. *Henry IV. Lewis XIV.* has inherited this present year 1693, the Estate of that Lady, whom he would never suffer to marry. This Principality has a little Parliament residing at *Lyons*, and made up of 3 Presidents, 3 Masters of the Requests, a Knight of Honour, that sits with the Sword on his side, 12 Councillors or Judges, an Attorney General, 2 Solicitors or *Advocates General*, and 4 Secretaries. This Sovereign Court of Justice nobilitates its Members, and has the same Rights and Privileges of other Parliaments of *France*. The Dean of *Trevoux* is Counsellor born in it.

The other Chastelnies are *Beauregard, Monmerle, Toissey, Lans, Chalarnont, Chatelet, S. Trivier, Ville-Neuve, Amberieu and Lignieu*.



## CHAP. XX.

*Of the County of Burgundy.**Or Franche-County.*

THE County of Burgundy, or Upper Burgundy, call'd also *Franche-County*, hath *Switzerland* on the East, *Bresse*, *Bugey* and *Gex* on the South, *Lorraine* on the North; the *Dutchy of Burgundy*, and part of *Champaign* on the West. Its extent is from 46 d. 10 m. to 41 d. of Latitude, which take up about 47 Leagues from *Dortans* to *Fontaine le-Chaste*, and between 26 d. 20 m. and 28 d. 28 m. of Longitude, which make up about 33 Leagues from the Frontiers of the Bishoprick of *Basil* to *Autrey*, beyond *Gray*. It abounds in Corn, Wine, Cattle, Horses, Woods, and Salt-Springs: Here are to be found several Quarries of black Marble, Jasper of divers Colours, and fine Alabaster; with some Mines of Iron and Silver. This Country is water'd with several considerable Rivers and Brooks; as the *Saone*, the *Dou*, the *Lougnon*, the *Soubre*, and of ex- the *Loave*, &c. which abound with various so: t cellent Fish, among which, the Carps of *Saone*, the Pikes of the *Dou*; the Barbel-Fish of the *Lougnon*, and the Trouts of the *Dain*, are in great esteem. The course of these Rivers has been already described in the Government of *Burgundy*. All Criticks and Geographers agree, that



that *Franche-County* was anciently inhabited by the *Sequani*, who were so powerful as to dispute the Empire of the *Gaules* with the *Autunois*, which was the occasional cause of *Caesar's* Conquests, as may be seen in the Description of *Autun*. This great Captain and Historian ranks the *Sequani*, as well as the *Helvetii*, or *Switzers*, among the *Celtae* or *Galli*, properly so called. But *Augustus* added these two Nations to the *Belgick Gaule*, as he did also those who dwelt betwixt the *Loire* and the *Garumne* to *Aquitain*, and gave to the Country of the *Sequani*, the name of *Maxima Sequanorum*, because it was one of the greatest Provinces of the *Gaules*, taking up all that space that is included betwixt the *Rhone*, Mount *Jura*, the source of the *Rhin*, and the *Saone*, from *Basil*, or rather *August Augusta Rauracorum*, to *Lyons*.

This Country was conquer'd from the *Romans* by the *Burgundians*, and from them by the *French*. During the decay of that Monarchy, under the second Race of their Kings, it made for a little while part of the second Kingdom of *Burgundy*. Then its Counts made themselves Sovereigns, and their Posterity enjoy'd it from the end of the 10th Century to 1369, that *Margaret*, Heiress of this Country, married *Philip the bold*, Duke of *Burgundy* of the Royal Blood of *France*. And therefore this Province being originally the Portion of a Princess, remain'd to *Mary*, Daughter to *Charles the Rash*, last Duke of *Burgundy*, and to her Heirs the Kings of *Spain*, till *Lewis XIV.* seiz'd upon it in 1674, and kept it by the Peace of *Nimeguen*.



*Franche-County* is said to have got this name from one or two of its Counts, *Renald I.* and *III.* who refused to make Homage to the Emperours, pretending that their Country was altogether free from that Subjection. Whatever be of that, this County is now divided into three Bayliwicks, bearing the names of *Vesoul*, *Dole* and *Poligni*; or highest, middle-most and lowest *Franche-County*.

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### *Of the Bayliwick of Vesoul.*

**T**HE Bayliwick of *VESOUL*, or *Ament*, or Highest Burgundy County, is situated in the North part of this Province, *VESOUL*, *Vesulum*, Capital of this Division, is seated on a little River, which emptieth it self into the *Saone*, 21 Miles North of *Besancon*, in a Soil fertile in excellent Wine. It had formerly a good Cittadel.

*Gray*, *Gradicum Castrum*, upon the *Saone*, 9 Leagues North of *Dole*, and 10 North-East of *Dijon*. It was formerly a place of great strength, but *Lewis XIV.* having surpriz'd it, in 1668, raz'd its Cittadel, and all its Fortifications.

*Beaune les-Nonnes*, lies a Mile North of the *Dou*, and 7 Leagues North-East of *Besancon*.

*Luxeuil*, *Luxovium*, is a little Town towards the Frontiers of *Lorraine*, and Mount *Vauge*, 7 Leagues North-East of *Vesoul*. The Abby of *Lure*, or *Luders*, *Lutetia*, is situated on a little River,



River, which emptieth it self into the *Lougnon*, towards the Frontiers of *Lorraine*, 15 Leagues North-East of *Besancon*.

In this Bayliwick towards the borders of *Elzas* is included the small Country of *Montbeliard* called by the Germans *Monpelgart*, in Latin *Mons-Beliardi*, or *Mons Peligardi*. The Capital of the same name is situated on the river *Halle*, which emptieth it self into the *Don*. It's built at the foot of a rugged Rock on which is a Castle, and a strong Cittadel. This County formerly belong'd to the Dukes of *Wirtemberg*, who were also Lords of the Imperial Abby of *Lure* and all the Inhabitants professed the Reform'd Religion.

The other places of note in this Bailiwick are *Fougerevil-la-ville* and *Le Chastel*, *Faucouney*, *Jussey*, *Pont*, and *Port sur Saone*, *Chemilly*, *Montjustin*, *Rup*, *Rey*, *Montbozon*, *Grammont*, *Rougemont*, *Isle S. Loup*, *Pesme*, *Croinarcy*, &c.

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### Of the Bayliwick of Dole.

**T**HE Bayliwick of *Dole*, call'd also the *Middlemost*, is situated in the middle of this Province, extending it self from the Frontiers of the Dutchy of *Burgundy* even to those of *Switzerland*, about the River *Lougnon*, *Don Dubis* and *Louve Lupa*.

*Besancon*, *Vesontio*, *Visontio*, and in latter ages *Chrysopolis* or the *Golden City*, lies upon the *Don*, 22 Leagues East of *Dijon*. It was former-



formerly the Capital of the *Sequani*, and a place of so great strength and consequence, that when the *Romans* had it into their power they planted there a Colony, fortify'd and adorn'd it with several buildings, whereof there remains but some few names in and about the Town. In 274. this plantation rais'd a Triumphal Arch in honour of *Aurelian* the Emperour; but some years after it was plunder'd and ruin'd by the *Alamanni* under their King *Crocus*; so that it was in a pitiful condition in 366. It had scarce been repair'd when the *Vandals* besieg'd it in vain in 406. The *Burgundians* were more successful in 413. but *Attila* destroy'd it a second time, in 451 or 452. It was afterwards rebuilt in the form it has now, somewhat different from what it was in the *Romans* time. The River *Dou* separates it into two parts, of which the biggest resembles a Peninsula, and is clos'd up by a hill, whereon the Cittadel was built. *Besancon* has still an Archbishoprik, of which *Belay* and the titular Bishop of *Lausanne* and *Basil* are suffragans. The Chapter is compos'd of a Dean, an Archdeacon a Singer, a Treasurer, two Under-Singers, 43. Canons, and 24 Chaplains. The Churches of *St. Stephen* and *St. John* pretend both to the dignity of Cathedral there are eight Parishes besides, the Abbys of *St. Vincent* and *St Paul*, several Colegiate Churches and Monasteries and a Coledg of *Jesuits*. The Palaces of *Cante-Croix* and *Granvelle*, and the Town-House deserve to be seen. In the last is a Brazen Eagle bearing the statue of the Emperor *Charles V.* and throwing Water by its two bills. The



Diocese of *Besancon* contains 780 Parishes under 15 Deanships, and 5 Arch-deaconships. Since *Franche-County* is in the power of the French the Parliament and Chamber of Accounts, which had their Seat at *Dole*, have been transfer'd-hither; so that *Besancon* may now be accounted the Capital of this Province.

**DOLE** *Dola*, is situated on the *Dou*, in a very pleasant and fertile Country and is still, the Seat of the Bailly of this Division. It's a Town of some Antiquity. *Philip the Good Duke of Burgundy* did found its University in 1425, and the Dutches *Margaret* enlarged its Priviledges and indowments in 1404. The French King *Lewis the XI.* took that Town Anno 1479 and sack'd it in a lamentable manner, which gave occasion to call it *Dola Dolens*, Mournful *Dole*. Anno 1530. the Emperour *Charles the V.* did fortify it with seven Bastions, which afterwards were augmented; but Anno 1668 *Lewis the XIV.* took it with the rest of the Province, threw down the Walls, ruined the Fortifications, and then restor'd it to the Spaniards, but afterwards Anno 1674 he retook it with the whole *Franche-County*. Other Towns in this Division are *Ornans*, *Quingey*, *Vercell*, *a-Loye*, *Rochefort*, *Chasteau-neuf*, *Raon*, &c.

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### Of the Bayliwick of Poligny.

**T**HE BAYLIWICK of *Poligny* or *d'Aval* in the South-West of *Burgundy County*, is situated between *Switzerland* on the East; *Bresse* on the South, the Dutchy



Dutchy of *Burgundy* on the West ; and the Bayliwick of *Dole* on the North. The cheif Towns are *Poligny*, *Salins*, and *S. Claude*. *Poligny* the Seat of the *Baily* lies on the Source of the River *Glanstine* which emptieth it self into the *Dou*, eight leagues from *Dole* towards the South-East. *Salins*, *Salina Sequanorum* is situated between two Mountains nigh the River *Forica* that discharges it self into the *Louve*, 9 leagues from *Besancon*, towards the South. It derives its name from Salt-Springs, which, did the French King allow it, would supply most part of the Country with Salt. In the *Spaniards* time it was extraordinary strong and had a Castle almost impregnable.

*Saint Claude* was also pretty well fortify'd. It's situated towards the Frontiers of *Bugey* and the Country of *Gex*, 7 leagues North-West of *Geneve*: There is a famous Abby, that boasts of the Body of *St. Claude* Archbishop of *Besancon* in the 7. Century whence the Town hath its name.

The other places Worthy to be mention'd are *Lyon-le-Saunier*, *Arley*, *Ruffey*, *Blesterans*, *Carlaeu*, *Mommorot*, *Monet le Chasteau*, *Sorlin*, *Mirebeau*, *Champagnole*, *Chastel-Chalon*, *Arbois*, *St. Lothain*, *Burgille*, *Nozeret*, *Pontarlier*, *St. Anne*, *Montbenoit*, &c.

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F I N I S.

THE



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